Memorials concerning deceased Friends approved by New England Yearly Meeting — Commencing 1843

Ts. and Ms.
Men
Women
Memorials
1843-1868
YEARLY MEETING OF FRIENDS
FOR NEW ENGLAND

No. 100.I
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A Testimony of Sandwich Monthly Meeting of Friends, in the State of New Hampshire, Concerning our beloved friend Cyprus Beede deceased —

He was born at Poplin, the 9th of the 5th mo 1766. His parents, Daniel and Patience Beede, removed with their family to Sandwich, then a newly settled place, when he was quite young, — not any of them being members of our religious Society.

It appears that he was through the favor of divine Goodness early visited with a manifestation of the Holy Spirit through obedience to which, he was enabled to become a devoted follower of our Lord Jesus Christ. —

From his own account it appears that when young he was in the practice of attending the meetings for worship held in the neighborhood; and although not fully satisfied with their religious views he continued to attend with them until his mind became convinced in relation to their doctrine and forcibly impressed with a fear that if he continued to sit under it, the light which he was favored with would be taken from him and he be left in darkness — from that time he ceased to attend their place of worship —

He first became acquainted with the principles of our religious Society through the instrumentality of some of the Ministers thereof, who visited the place where he lived; and being convinced of the truth of them and concerned to walk consistently therewith he subsequently made application and was received a member in the 27th year of his age; and being concerned to submit to and abide under the refining, baptizing power of truth, he became prepared and was evidently called by the great Head of the Church to the vocation of a Gospel Minister and was acknowledged as such by the Society in the year 1806.

He was diligently engaged in the exercise of the gift entrusted to his charge, not only at home but considerably abroad and as far as appears to the acceptance and satisfaction of his friends

In his public communications he was clear and explicit, as well as weighty and impressive being often enabled in a very convincing manner to bring to view the great doctrines of the gospel of life and salvation through the propitiatory sacrifice and mediation of our Lord Jesus Christ and of the precious gift of the Holy Spirit which was to be sent in his name to lead and guide into all truth.

He was a diligent attender of our religious meetings both for worship and discipline when his health would permit, and especially careful that his outward concerns should not hinder himself or family from attending those held on the middle of the week.

In the various social and relative duties of life he was a pattern worthy of imitation being concerned to discharge them consistently with his religious profession. He was indeed a kind and an affectionate husband, a tender father, one who was concerned to bring up his beloved children and those under his direction in piety and virtue. As a neighbor he was kind and obliging, concerned to use his influence to preserve peace and harmony not only in our own society but amongst all.

He was highly esteemed by those who were not in religious profession with himself, many of whom evinced that they considered him as a father in the Church.

He was a great lover of cleanliness which was manifested by his example in his department, house and furniture.

Although our friend was of a delicate constitution he had through life been subject to but little confinement until the 58 year of his age, when he was visited with a severe and protracted sickness from which he never fully recovered, but during the last seven years of his life he suffered much from a Pulmonary affection attended with a severe cough. Yet in this trying dispensation his fortitude and cheerfulness did not forsake him

not appearing to think his lot hard or his case trying: he did however recover gradually so as to attend his own meeting which was near by; and occasionally some neighboring meetings, and in the summer of 1846 our Quarterly Meeting a distance of 60 miles; and also some other meetings while from home in most or all of which he was much favored in his religious communications: After his return home he frequently bore his testimony for the truth; manifesting a lively and unabating concern for the promotion of the precious cause. Often and fervent were his labors to impress the necessity of the maintenance of love one towards another and the duty of the forgiveness of injuries; querying impressively on what other condition can we rest our hopes of happiness; bringing to view the express declaration of our Savior, "But if ye from your heart forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your heavenly Father forgive your trespasses" And as he drew near his close and yet able to attend meetings he seemed increasingly engaged to impress the necessity of vital Christianity.

On the 11th of the 4th mo 1841 he was seized with a violent sickness which at times overpowered his mental faculties, yet frequently in the course of his illness he manifested by his expressions his apprehension of the change that awaited him; mentioning how desirable it would have been if he could have made a few more religious visits. that he should have been willing to have suffered a good deal for the sake of paying some little debts to the people; that he did not know but he had let too small things hinder him but he believed all would be passed by appearing to have a clear and unclouded prospect of a happy transition from time to eternity.

Throughout the last day of his sojourn with us he appeared to have his understanding perfectly; and on being asked if he had been tried with any doubt in regard to his future well-being, he replied "not any", and then added "Oh I have no doubt but it will be well with me"; and whenever a little relieved from the pressure of bodily suffering which he bore with Christian patience, was tranquil and serene to the great

Consolation of his friends - this continued as late as he could speak, which was within a few moments of the solemn close which occured on the morning of the 19th of the 4th mo 1841 aged # 75 years and his remains were interred in friends burial ground the 21st after a solemn meeting on the occasion.-

And while we feel our loss in the removal from works to rewards of this our beloved friend we can but humbly hope and trust it is his gain -

Signed by direction and on behalf of our Monthly Meeting aforesaid held 4th mo 20th 1843

Clerks { Ezra Meader
Caroline Bedle

The foregoing testimony on behalf of our beloved friend Cyrus Bleede, deceased has been read & approved and is directed to be signed by the Clerk on our behalf — from the Minutes of Dover Quarterly Meeting held at Dover 4th mo 27th 1843.

John D Long. Clerk for this time
Lydia Thompson. Assistant Clerk

A Testimony concerning Andrew Nichols who departed this life the 9th of 7th mo 1841 — aged 75 years and 9 months

Andrew Nichols son of Andrew and Anne Nichols, was born in South Kingston 3d of 1st mo 1766.

It appears from early youth that he was of a serious and solid turn of mind, and prepared while young to receive the good seed of the Kingdom.

He was at times mercifully sensible, that heavenly good overshadowed him, even to the tendering of his mind; and to the shedding tears of Contrition. But like many others, in seasons of unwatchfulness, he was left to wander in desolate places.

As he advanced in years, being followed by the swift witness in his own mind, and giving up thereto, he grew in the saving knowledge of the Truth and became thus qualified for usefulness in the Church, and was appointed to the station of an Elder which he filled to the satisfaction of Friends.—

After his appointment to this station it pleased the Great Head of the Church to dispense unto him a gift in the ministry which he was favored to occupy with much meekness and to the acceptance of Friends during the remainder of his life.—

In his conversation he was cheerful, and his life was marked with that humility and simplicity which is of the Truth—

In his testimonies he was sound and edifying and preached the Gospel not in the enticing words of mans wisdom, but in the demonstration of the Spirit and of power: not seeking the applause of men, but the glory of God.

He was somtimes favored to speak with much clearness on doctrinal subjects, and in his religious communications he was often instrumental in arousing the lukewarm and indifferent and in speaking comfort and encouragement to the Contrite and humble minded

At the three last meetings particularly which he

attended,—gospel love flowed freely ~~from~~ through him in a weighty manner, and being tendered himself it reached to the tendering of others. He indeed appeared remarkably filled with heavenly good which he freely handed forth as a parting legacy to those whom he was soon to part with forever.

A few days after these appointments he was confined to his house, occasioned by a severe fracture of one of his lower limbs, and otherwise injured, causing much pain and suffering which he bore with composure, patience and resignation, receiving it as from the hand of the Lord.

He invariably maintained his usual firmness of mind evincing to beholders an unshaken faith in whom he had long trusted—which faith in the eternal Rock of ages was now his support in the needful time. And it seemed that divine goodness was over him in his great affliction in an eminent manner.—

He was aware that his time was short, and said he did not know that he had any desire to be raised up again, except on account of his family which would be a helpless one. He was however favored to resign them and all he held dear into his heavenly Father's keeping—his faith and hope seeming renewedly centered in Jesus Christ, the Shepherd of his people. And to a friend who called to see him a little before his close, calling him by name, said "I believe in sanctification through the blood of the Lamb." And when the time of his departure arrived, all with him appeared peaceful and quiet—Heavenly good was sensibly felt by those around him; and as one falling into a sweet sleep, he was like a shock of Corn fully ripe, gathered we have no doubt to that garner of eternal rest prepared for the righteous.

Signed on behalf and by direction of Greenwich Monthly Meeting held at Coventry 5th mo 1st 1843
by Peres Peck Clerk
Freelove Greene Clerk for the day

At Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting held at
East Greenwich the 4th & 5th mo 1843—

The Testimony concerning our late Friend
Andrew Nichols, deceased, to which this is an-
nexed, was read and approved.

In behalf the meeting

David Buffum Clerk
Sarah F. Tobey. Clerk

Testimony of Vassalboro Monthly Meeting Concerning our friend Benjamin Worth deceased.

Although somtime has elapsed since the decease of our beloved friend, whose memory is still dear to many, we believe it right to bear our testimony concerning him.

He was born on the Island of Nantucket, in the year 1740. Of his early life we have but little account, except what has been found amongst his writings from which it appears that he commenced a seafaring life when young which calling he pursued for several years; during which period he was united in marriage with Phebe Coffin, in whom he found whilst she lived, a kind and sympathizing companion and help meet. After his marriage he still continued for a time to traverse the watery deep, notwithstanding the many trials he had to encounter; amongst which he particularly notes that of being deprived of the privilege of attending religious meetings.

At the commencement of the war with Great Britain in 1776, he abandoned the sea and the following spring removed with his family and settled upon a lot of unimproved land about eighty miles from the City of New York up the North River.

Here for a while he was favored to obtain a comfortable living. In contrasting his present situation with his former perilous life, he says, I felt very thankful to my Creator. He observes that the year succeeding his removal his crops looked well, and that his prospects for a comfortable living were promising, but soon a disagreeable change took place. Orders were issued for drafting soldiers, and in consequence of the conscientious refusal of friends to bear arms, their property was taken and sold, which caused much suffering, and of which he shared pretty largely. It was about this time that his mouth was first opened to declare the wonderful

dealings of and condescending goodness of the all-wise Creator to his dependant Creature, man.

This was a close ~~xxxx~~ trial to him, insomuch that when he believed the Sacrifice called for, he several times shrunk from the Cross, and put it off until judgment was set so close, and the distress of his mind became so great, that he dared no longer withhold, but promised should the requirement again be made he would yield implicit obedience thereunto, which covenant he was mercifully favored to keep, and made the offering in expressing a few words. By continuing in obedience to the manifestations of truth, more was required of him, and as he closely followed the leadings of the unerring guide, he became more qualified to minister as a faithful Steward of the manifold grace of God.

The war continuing and his means of support being limited, he removed to Nine Partners, and took a School, which afforded him a comfortable support. Soon however a fresh trial of his faith ensued. He believed it required of him to leave all, and in the love of the gospel to visit the families of two large Monthly Meetings. Through Divine aid he was enabled to make the sacrifice and performed the weighty service, visiting several who held Slaves. He remarks, "That there was but little said, but the Slaves were all set at liberty, being about twenty in number. Thus the Lord wrought in a powerful manner. Blessed be his holy name."

About the year 1764, with the unity of his friends, he removed within the compass of Purchase Monthly Meeting, where he resided for several years, and was often called to travel in the service of truth, amongst friends and others, to which he was enabled in a good degree cheerfully to submit, frequently remarking how sweet was the peace and consolation he was permitted to enjoy as a rich reward for his labors.

After residing in the State of New York, about sixteen years, he believed it right for him to return to Nantucket, which with the unity of his friends he accomplished. After residing there several years, falling desirous of being in a better situation to

provide for his family, and to evade the necessity of his Lord following the Sea, with the Concurrence of his friends he removed and settled within the limits of this Monthly Meeting, passing the remainder of his life, while his health permitted, he was often drawn in that love for the prosperity of the Truth, so near and dear to his heart, to visit Friends and others within the Compass of the Yearly Meeting to which he belonged, much to the satisfaction of Friends, and the peace of his own mind—

Towards the close of his travels, after returning from a visit to the families of Friends, he thus writes— Oh! adorable goodness, that went with me from house to house, and opened to me when sitting with families, what to say, and which at times was in a very plain way; for there are those who say they are poor but are not. He was of a sound and discriminating mind and discerning spirit, and often felt constrained to impart counsel to the sympathizing in a very plain, close and impressive manner;— plain-dealing being one of his distinguishing characteristics; though tender and encouraging to the broken and contrite in Spirit—

His communications were clear and comprehensive, accompanied by an evidence of Divine authority. He was often led to recommend true humility and simplicity which he was concerned to enforce by example as well as precept—

For several of the last years of his life he was much confined at home. Through bodily infirmity and notwithstanding the outward man seemed to decay, he retained the savor of life in an eminent degree, often evincing an ardent desire for the prosperity of Zion and the enlargement of her borders— He often expressed the satisfaction he enjoyed in the company of his friends, many of whom can call to mind seasons of Divine favor, when present with him wherein their spirits were mutually refreshed together— About five weeks before his decease he became more downcast and gradually wasted away; a short time before his death, being visited by a friend, he observed, "There

I awoke this morning, I became satisfied that my time had about come that I should be released", and then asked how it was with our meeting, whether we felt an [illegible] being answered, he replied "that was all we could ask for".

A few days before he expired, being asked how it was with him, he answered, "that he saw no cloud nor anything in his way, and all he had to do was wait patiently until his time came, that the time was not his but the masters — This patient waiting he was mercifully favored to experience to the close which took place the 22d day of the 6th mo 1842 in the ninetieth year of his age, and we doubt not that he was permitted through the merits of redeeming love, to join the innumerable company of the spirits of just men made perfect, in the realms of everlasting bliss —

Signed in, and on behalf of Vassalboro Monthly Meeting of Friends held 4th mo 19th 1843. —

Joseph H. Cole }
Eunice Nichols } Clerks

The foregoing Memorial being read in this Meeting was united with, and we feel bound to add that as a minister he was sound in the doctrines of the gospel of Christ often setting forth in his public communications his belief in the Divinity and mediation of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Signed in and on behalf of Vassalboro Quarterly Meeting of Friends held 5th mo 24th 1843 —

Joseph H. Cole }
Sarah A. Jenkins } Clerks

Testimony of Weare Monthly Meeting concerning
Daniel Gove—

The memory of the just is blessed, and the remembrance of this beloved friend being precious to many of us, we feel engaged to furnish a Testimony concerning him—

He was born at Hampton, New Hampshire, the 6th of 3d mo 1749—of parents who were members of our religious Society—

While he was young in years his father was removed by death and he was placed as an apprentice in Boston when about 14 years of age—During his residence there his faithfulness in the use of the plain language was, on one occasion, strikingly put to the test, and the prompt fidelity with which he adhered to it gained the respect of those who were present and was accompanied with the reward of peace—

In consequence of the practical excitement and trouble which prevailed in Boston at that time he became much averse to a city life, and, after residing there nearly a year he returned to the vicinity of his birth place—

The impressions made upon his mind at this early period of his life doubtless had a tendency to direct his steps into the path of piety; and through the instrumentality of that Light which maketh manifest, he was enabled clearly to see, as he advanced in years, that the way of the Cross was the only way to the Crown—

When he had attained to years of manhood he removed to Weare, and about the 25th year of his age was married to Miriam Eastland, with whom he lived in much harmony Sixty three years—

During several of the first years of his residence here the Monthly Meet. of which he was a member was held fifty miles distant; and on many accounts it often appeared difficult for him to leave home on this and similar occasions, yet as he was engaged to seek the counsel of best wisdom, he was favored with an evidence that he should prosper were he faithful to the requirements of his divine Master— One instance of his dedication is worthy of remembrance, when he remarked to a friend while on his way to the Yearly Meeting, that he had felt an anxious to attend it, that he believed he must go whatever sacrifice it might cost him; thus evincing an honest engagement to fulfil this injunction of Holy Scripture

"Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might"—

While he was concerned to educate his children in habits of industry and frugality, and to furnish them with suitable literary instruction, he also felt the importance of training them, as he might be enabled, in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, frequently assembling them on first days, for the purpose of religious reading and retirement. In this attention to the present and eternal interests of their offspring, his wife was very feelingly united and to her judicious management, especially in his absence, he attributed under the divine blessing a large share of his prosperity—

On account of his adherence to our testimony with respect to war, he patiently suffered distraint of property—

In his domestic arrangements he was a good example of simplicity and plainness, and entertained his friends with much hospitality—

He was an Elder in good esteem; diligently engaged for the prosperity of Truth and the promotion of good order in the Church. In our meetings for Discipline he frequently exhorted the younger members to prize their privileges, and to conduct in a comely manner; and some of us have a lively remembrance of his counsel, and its salutary influence on our youthful minds — For many years he appeared at times in short testimonies in meetings for divine worship — In these communications, he frequently reminded his friends of the necessity of watchfulness, self examination and a steady attention to the teachings of that Grace "which through faith bringeth salvation" — the manifestations of that Light which lighteth every man that cometh into the world; and often referred with great reverence to this testimony of the Apostle: "God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the Glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ"—

In the latter part of his life he often alluded to the favors he had received, remarking that he had great peace of mind and hoped he was not deceived—

Several years before his decease he gave up the care of his business to some of his sons. The review of this step afforded him much satisfaction, and in his last sickness he frequently referred to the kind attention he had received from those around him in his declining years—

For more than forty years the principal care of closing the particular meeting which he attended devolved upon him; and when his memory was so much impaired that he did not retain the days of the week, and sometimes failed to recognize the members of the family, he was favored to close it reasonably –

The last year of his life he became more feeble and attended meetings less frequently, yet his concern for the performance of this duty was not abated –

On the 3d month 1843 his health declined more rapidly. At this period of his illness he was exercised with much pain and at times his intellectual powers appeared to fail – In one instance when awaking from a refreshing sleep, he spoke nearly two hours upon religious subjects with as much clearness and consistency as in earlier days

After this he continued quiet and composed and attended many instructive expressions evincing his love for his friends and desire for their preservation –

To one who remarked to him that his work was done, he replied, "no, I must watch to the end" – He desired that his friends might not consider him lost when he was gone thus manifesting an undoubted hope of a happy immortality –

On the 2d of 4th mo he addressed some of his young friends in the following manner – "Young men I hope you will be preserved and enabled to stand as watchmen on the walls; and we are commanded to watch and pray without ceasing and this will keep the heart clean, and when that is clean there is no condemnation – I am a well wisher to all, that all may take heed to the light which leads to peace, as it is said, my peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you, not as the world gives (which takes away again) but it shall remain with you forever" –

4th mo 4th Being asked by a friend how he was, he said "I am free from pain for the most part, and I cannot be thankful enough for the many favors that I receive at the hand of the Lord; and O merciful God, may all my relatives and friends be found diligent in seeking after thee." Tenderly looking on one who was about to leave him he said "it is peace that we want – peace of mind" –

Having in early life chosen the good part it remained with him to the end –

He continued to grow weaker till the 11th of 6th mo 1843

when he quietly departed this life in the 95th year of his age.
On the 12th of the solemn meeting, his remains were
interred in the burial ground of Friends near their south
meeting house in Weare.

"Blessed are those servants whom the Lord when he
cometh shall find watching".

Signed on behalf and by direction of Weare Monthly
Meeting of Friends held 4th mo. 11th 1844.

John Page jun. } Clerks.
Hannah Page jun. }

At Salem Quarterly Meeting of Friends held at
Seabrook 23d of 5th mo. 1844.

A memorial from Weare Mo. Meet. respecting
our late beloved friend Daniel Page was at this time
read, and after a time of solid consideration, was
approved by this and the women's meeting, and
the Clerks were directed to sign it on behalf of the
meeting, and forward it to our Meeting for Sufferings.

Samuel Boyce Clerk
Sophronia Page Clerk

A Testimony of Sandwich N. H. Monthly Meeting of Friends concerning Huldah B Hoag.

Our beloved friend Huldah B Hoag late wife of Lindley M. Hoag of Wolfborough in the state of New-Hampshire having been recently removed by death from this branch of the Church Militant, and leaving an evidence behind her of having been made meet, through sanctification of the spirit, for a better inheritance, we have thought proper to note a few particulars respecting her, if haply others might be encouraged by her example, to that noble dedication of heart by which their light also might so shine as to induce beholders to glorify God on their account.

This our friend was born on the 5th of the 1st mo. in the year of our Lord 1801. And was the daughter of Joseph and Hannah Varney of said Wolfborough persons in religious profession with us; who (though situated in a small meeting of friends) were concerned to be watchful over those whom Providence had committed to their care.

This their eldest child, was blest with good intellectual endowments, and an affectionate and benevolent disposition with a heart disposed to compassionate the needy and afflicted; which was evinced, by her readiness according to opportunity and the means in her power, to visit and communicate relief.

In early life, it appears she was at times made sensible of the tendering influences of the Holy Spirit, whereby she was led to a love of the truth and an esteem for those whom she considered worthy professors of it; especially the ministers of the Gospel in whose company and conversation she took much apparent satisfaction.

With these amiable traits she possessed an inclination for some of those liberties which are incompatible with the truth of Christ. And being active and interesting, and much associated with those not of our Society, having her education mostly at the schools with such, she was subjected to much temptation to depart in some measure in her personal appearance from that Christian simplicity in which it was particularly desirable to her parents to retain her.

And tho' she was generally exemplary in filial affection and submission, yet here on some occasions, her parents apprehended it necessary to add restraint to affectionate persuasion to prevent that conformity to the fluctuating fashions of the world with which they could not feel easy: a care which we have much reason to believe was blest to her in after life.

Although at this period, she indulged her inclination to assimilate with the fashionable world in her appearance more than was consistent, for which she has since expressed deep regret; and remarked that she did not remember that she ever departed from the plain Scripture language in her intercourse on any occasion.

In 1824 she was united in marriage with Jonas M. Varney a young man in membership with us, and settled in her native place. Her situation in life now seemed to promise prosperity; and it was evident that the love of the world and its alluring fashions, had still an undue influence over her.

But it pleased Him who doth not afflict willingly, nor grieve the children of men, shortly to bring a cloud over her temporal prospects. In less than two years from the date of her marriage, after a lingering illness, her beloved husband was removed by death — leaving her a widowed mother in the 25th year of her age. Being thus taught the instability of earthly things, she was brought to look into the condition of her own heart. And on perceiving the state of alienation in which she stood from the love of her Heavenly Father, great for a time was her conflict, in which she was nearly overwhelmed. But He whose covenant is as sure with the night as with the day; when he saw her in humble faith, looking unto Him, for that mercy and forgiveness, of which she now saw she had need, was pleased in his own time, to manifest himself her father and her friend — disposed to receive her into favour with open arms, on conditions of future obedience. And under these chastening visitations, being concerned to apply to the right source, we believe she was favoured to experience a growth in grace, and in the saving knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. And as she was careful to abide under the sanctifying influences of the Holy Spirit patiently enduring that baptism

which is with the holy Ghost and with fire; the time at length arrived in which she found it required of her publicly to espouse the cause of her divine Lord and Master.
But thus called upon and impressed with a sense of duty, she continued for a while, to stumble at the cross, dwelling upon her unfitness for so great a work; whereby she became again involved in sorrow and distress; until learning obedience by the things which she suffered, she gave up to the heavenly requisition; which was in the 31st year of her age.
Her Heavenly Father having seen meet to entrust her with a gift in the Gospel of his dear Lord was pleased as she was concerned to wait upon him to qualify her to labour acceptably in his church.
In 1831 she was united in marriage to our friend Sendly M. Hoag. And it may be truly be said that in the conjugal relation, she was an help meet for him. Remarkable for habits of industry, economy, and regularity; she was peculiarly calculated to "guide the house" and manage their temporal concerns in his absence. As also well qualified to sympathize with him in his varied religious exercises, being his fellow-labourer in the Gospel, and abundantly disposed to encourage him to faithfulness in his ministerial vocation even when it led him to distant parts. Although much of the time in a delicate and precarious state of health; and subjected by his absence to an additional weight of cares: yet these she sustained with a magnanimity becoming the Holy Cause in which they were engaged: still exhorting him to persevere with cheerfulness in the duties of his calling, until satisfied of his Heavenly Father's permission to return. Informing him at one time of the assurance she felt that she and their precious children would be cared for in his absence.
In the parental relation she was concerned to discharge her duties faithfully. Governing with firmness yet with mildness; seeking divine aid to train her beloved offspring in the way they should go.
She was concerned to occupy the precious gift committed to her charge, and at different times visited most of the meetings in our own Yearly Meeting and some parts of New-York and Philadelphia Yearly Meetings to the acceptance and satisfaction of her friends as appears by

her returning minutes; and to the peace of her own mind.
And it may be said, that in the performance of her religious visits she was an example of dedication, surmounting difficulties, and encountering apparent dangers, from feeble health, in a remarkable manner. She was sound in doctrine, and her religious communications were clear and impressive, rightly dividing the word of truth to those among whom she laboured.
It appears that as she drew near the close of life she was frequently led forth in her Gospel labors in a memorable manner in her own meeting.
She attended her own quarterly meeting in the autumn of 1842, after which her health failing considerably she went out but little.
Once however in the first month, 1843, feeling very desirous to attend meeting once more way was made for it, and she was led in an interesting and impressive manner, to communicate to the meeting. Although she was unable to stand upon her feet during the exercise.

In the early part of her confinement she was led to a deep investigation of her own spiritual standing, and much engaged in prayer, frequently vocally, that the Lord would strengthen her in the faith and in the patience to endure all that in infinite goodness and wisdom was laid upon her. In relation to this exercise she observed to her husband, "I have passed through more in my mind, than I could describe: so great has been my anxiety to know that nothing remained in my way: and my Heavenly Father has given me a clear and undoubted evidence that he has accepted me, and that my peace is made. All is forgiven me. For my Saviour's sake all is forgiven me". A few days after she remarked in connexion with other weighty expressions— "I would not exchange the peace I feel and the assurance I am at times favoured with that a glorious immortality awaits me for all that this world affords."
She derived great consolation from retirement, frequently desiring to be left alone for that purpose expressing on some occasions that it seemed like a sabbath to the mind.
She continued to take the oversight of her family, and to give almost the entire direction of her domestic concerns until very near her close believing that the care of her

family was a part of the work left for her to do. Saying "It is not for the love of worldly things: I feel weaned from them." On the opening of the spring she recruited a little so as to be able to ride out, and some of her friends indulged a hope that she would enjoy a more comfortable state of health, respecting which she said that she had never been able to see whether she should continue for a long or a short time. Adding "I do not know as that is an evidence of divine disapprobation." "I have read the account of a number of worthy friends, who had no sight of their approaching change; of whose acceptance into the kingdom of glory there could be no doubt" - adding - "the great point is to be in a state of readiness at all times, both in health and in sickness."

The prospect that her children would soon be deprived of a mothers watchful care, caused her much anxiety; and seemed at times to draw a cloud over her mind.

A few days before her death in reply to some inquiries made by her husband, she said, "Oh, my Redeemer has been with me, to day, and I have been enabled to give you all up. The prospect I have had of departing and being with Christ - There can be nothing more glorious. And were it not for the little service which I am able to render my family, I should not desire to remain here any longer."

The day before her death a friend remarked that her sufferings appeared to be great. She replied, "I have never looked upon any of the sufferings which this poor body has endured, as hard. I do not know as I have ever felt impatient. I have received them as from the hand of the Lord."

After giving some directions relative to her children, addressing her family, she said, "Now I have given you all up. I feel as tho' my work is done." Next morning she appearing to be failing fast, her children and friends were called in, of whom she took her last farewell embracing her near relatives in an affectionate and tender manner, imparting salutary admonition to them; through which her mind was serene and composed. And turning to the company about her she said "I think I may safely say that my Redeemer has given me an undoubted evidence, that he has accepted me." She asked her physician if he thought she was dying! being answered in the affirmative she said: "Can this be death? if this is death it has lost its sting

the grave will have no victory, my work is finished. I have no fear of death". After a pause she said "Come Lord Jesus lift up the light of thy countenance".

Shortly after she expressed a desire to be released saying "now I should be glad to go". Then added, "but I am willing to wait all the Lords appointed time". And being removed from her chair to her bed, she fell into a quiet sleep and gently breathed her last, on the 17th. of 5th. mo. 1843 in the 43d year of her age.

And having by patient continuance in well doing, sought for immortality; we doubt not that she now inherits eternal life.

Signed on behalf and by direction of Sandwich (N.H.) monthly meeting of Friends held 5th mo. 18th 1843.

Ezra Meader
Caroline Bunde } Clerks.

The foregoing testimony concerning our beloved friend Huldah B. Hoag has been read in this meeting and united with and the Clerks are directed to sign the same on behalf of this meeting.

By direction and on behalf of Dover Quarterly Meeting of Friends held at Dover 5th. mo. 13th. 1843.

Ezra Meader
Abigail M. Jones } Clerks.

Testimony of Smithfield Monthly Meeting concerning our beloved friend Alice Rathbun, deceased.

When those are removed from us whose examples are worthy of imitation; whose lives have been instructive, and who have given full evidence that they have been followers and servants of Christ; it seems right for the encouragement and benefit of the living, to preserve some memorial of them, that survivors may be incited to tread in their footsteps and follow them in the way of salvation.

Our beloved friend Alice Rathbun, the subject of the following brief memoir, was the daughter of William and Mercy Peckham, and was born in South Kingston 1st Month 19th 1780. Of her early life we are not possessed of many particulars to introduce into this notice. In the year 1801 she was united in marriage to our friend Rowland Rathbun, and removed to reside with her husband, within the limits of this Monthly Meeting.

She was naturally of quick and ardent feelings, which, in mercy, were brought under the restraining, regulating and sanctifying power of Divine Grace, by which she was gradually induced into a state of obedience to her heavenly Master, and made willing to submit to the requirements that He saw meet to lay upon her. And in his wisdom she was pleased to dispense to her a gift in the ministry, and she yielded to the divine will, so as to open her mouth in public about the thirtieth year of her age. As she continued faithful to her Lord and Master, her gift was enlarged, and her communications being evidently in that life and authority which produce edification, she was acknowledged as a minister of the Gospel, by her friends in the year 1814. In advocating the cause of our Redeemer, she was remarkably favoured to do it in a way that was calculated to interest, and win souls to him. Her manner was peculiarly dignified and persuasive; and the love which filled her heart and freely flowed to others, produced its effect upon those that were witnesses of it, inducing them to feel to appreciate the loveliness of the Truth, and creating in them, through the Divine blessing, desires to be found walking in it.

In the social circle she was attractive, and her society was much sought, especially by the young, to whom she readily adapted herself, and who found in her a kind and sympathetic friend, one that could enter into their feelings, and interest, while she instructed them; and not a few can testify of the satisfaction and edification they have derived from the endearing intercourse they have been privileged to enjoy with her.

She was faithful in her maintenance of all the testimonies of Truth, which we are called upon, as a people, to bear; and when, in the discharge of her duty, she was required to labor with those who had deparited therefrom, the sweetness, tenderness, and restoring love, with which she approached them, the meekness

and the wisdom which she displayed, were truly edifying and worthy of imitation. She was much concerned that the young might be trained in the nurture and admonition of the Lord; and as a wife and mother, she was an example of faithfulness, affection and vigilance.

In the year Eighteen hundred thirty seven at the solicitation of their friends, she, with her husband took charge of our Yearly Meeting Boarding School at Providence, as Superintendents. It was with much diffidence and hesitancy that she entered upon this service, but she was favoured to discharge the varied and important duties that devolved upon her in this station with satisfaction of Friends.

The several times with the full approval of her friends, paid religious visits within the limits of our own Yearly Meeting. In 1816 she received a Certificate to visit friends in Gospel love in some parts of New York Yearly Meeting; and in 1820 to visit Friends within the Yearly Meeting of Ohio, and some within the limits of Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York Yearly Meetings. All these services she was favoured to accomplish to the peace of her own mind and to the comfort and edification of those whom she visited, as is fully testified by the various minutes made on her behalf by the several Meetings she attended.

In her ministry our beloved friend was engaged to set forth the necessity of holiness of life, of meekness and humble walking before God; to urge upon all the duty of faithfully following the Good Shepherd whithersoever he is pleased to lead us — yet, she fully felt and preached, that it is not from works of righteousness, that we can attain to salvation, that we are unprofitable servants, and that we know remission of sins alone, through the propitiatory offering of our Lord Jesus Christ on Calvary's Mount, and through faith and repentance come to receive acceptance in Him, the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world.

For several years before her decease her health had been very delicate and she travelled but little beyond the limits of her own Quarterly Meeting, although she was generally able to attend meetings at and near home, being very diligent in the discharge of this important duty. In the 6th Month 1845, she attended our Yearly Meeting, and while her tender spirit was deeply grieved with the course pursued by some whom she had longed loved in yielding to a spirit of disaffection which caused them to become alienated and to separate from the body of Friends, and while she was engaged most persuasively to entreat them to open their eyes to the error of their ways — yet, when she found this unavailing, she was firm in testifying against them, as having departed from the Truth, and united fully with her friends in the support of right order in the Church. In the 7th month of this year, she received a minute from her Monthly Meeting to visit in Gospel love, the Quarterly Meetings of Dover, Vassalboro' and Fairfield and some meetings within their limits. It was during this visit and while engaged in the service of her Lord and Master, that it pleased Him to remove her, as we reverently trust, from his Church militant to his Church triumphant. Her last

sickness was of but short duration and with, apparently, but little physical suffering. We conclude this brief memoir, with an extract from the minutes of this Monthly Meeting, made 12th Month 1845. "Our beloved friend Rachael Rathbun informed to this Meeting, the minute granted our dear friend Alice Rathbun in the 7th Month last, informing that she had been favored to attend the Quarterly Meetings of Dover and Falmouth, and a number of Meetings constituting the same; and also, one meeting within the limits of Fairfield Quarterly Meeting; and while thus ardently engaged in endeavouring to accomplish, in the love of the Gospel, the service then in prospect, was taken unwell and increasingly so at the house of our friend Samuel Taylor in Bridgewater, where after a short illness, she peacefully closed her useful life on the 9th of the 9th Month 1845. Thus has it pleased Divine Providence to remove from works to rewards one, who has long been a faithful laborer in the Lord's vineyard, a pillar in the Church greatly beloved and esteemed by us. And it seems right for us at this time to minute this memorial concerning her; for the righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance."

Signed by direction and on behalf of Smithfield Monthly Meeting of Friends, held 29th of 11th Month 1847

John Osborne, Clerk.
Lydia R. Kelly, Clerk.

A memorial concerning our beloved friend Alice Rathbun, deceased, prepared by Smithfield Monthly Meeting, was read weightily considered and fully approved by this, and our women's meeting, and the Clerk directed to transmit the same to our Meeting for Sufferings.

Extracted from the minutes of Smithfield Quarterly Meeting, held at Northbridge 5th month 13th. 1847

John Osborne, Clerk.

A Testimony of Weare Monthly Meeting of Friends concerning John Page.

The sanctifying power of Truth having been exemplified in the life and last illness of our late beloved friend John Page, and believing that the Christian experiences of the faithful may be useful in encouraging those who are desirous to follow them in the path of religion and virtue; we are induced to offer the following testimony concerning him.

He was born at Hardwick in the year 1767. His parents Daniel and Mary Page, removed with their family to Weare New Hampshire, when the subject of this Memoir was about two years of age. They were members of our religious Society and concerned to impress on the tender minds of their offspring the importance of regarding the gentle intimations and leadings of the Spirit of Truth. This parental care and solicitude under the Divine blessing produced a desire in his youthful mind to shun the wrong way and chose the right; they being (as he was often expressed) in a striking manner presented to his view. His father was an approved minister, and peacefully passed from works to rewards, after residing in this place about twelve years. This loss of a worthy parent of whose salutary counsel and example he was thus early deprived, he sensibly felt. Notwithstanding the continued care of a pious mother, through unwatchfulness, he yielded to the temptations incident to youth, and deviated from that path of rectitude which had been so clearly opened to his view.

Soon after his marriage, which was about the 24th. year of his age, being through merciful condescension, renewedly awakened to a sense of his condition, and being humbled and truly penitent, he witnessed the restoring love of the Redeemer; and as he continued watchful and obedient, he became qualified for usefulness in the Church. About the Thirty seventh year of his age, he was appointed to the station of an Elder, which important place he was concerned faithfully to fill.

His circumstances in life, though not affluent, were such as to enable him by observing industry and economy to provide for a numerous family. He manifested a deep interest in the religious instruction of his children, being concerned to assemble his family for the purpose of solemn waiting before the Lord, and careful to promote their constant attendance of our religious meetings. His heart and house were open to entertain with freedom and cordiality his friends, especially those who were travelling for the promotion of Truth. These he frequently accompanied in their journies on that account. He was deeply concerned to preserve good order, and to maintain the discipline of the Church, being fully persuaded that it was established under the influence of the Spirit of Truth. On some of the occasions he offered a few words of exhortation, evidently from the right source, which were acceptable and edifying. He was a lover of peace, being frequently engaged in endeavouring to reconcile differences amongst his fellow-men for which service he was well qual-

ipid. When admonishing the unfaithful, he was careful to do it in the spirit of meekness and restoring love.

He was a firm believer in our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, both as to his outward coming in the flesh; his sufferings, death, resurrection, ascension, mediation and intercession at the right hand of the Father, and to his spiritual appearance in the heart as the Comforter, leading and guiding into all truth. Being settled and established in these truths, he continued a faithful labourer in the vineyard of our Divine Master, until he had attained to a good old age, giving evidence by the meekness of his spirit that he was preparing for the great and solemn change.

A few days previous to his dissolution, some slight symptoms of indisposition were apparent, but they assumed no serious aspect till within two days of his death, when his case became more alarming; and though suffering much bodily distress, his patience and resignation were great, and not a murmuring word escaped him, but love seemed remarkably to abound, and his countenance, and the sweetness of his spirit, manifested that all was peace within. Early on the morning of the day of his decease, he expressed that it had been his greatest desire for a long time, to be found doing his Maker's will; and although sensible of many short comings, yet he believed, through the mercies of the Redeemer he should not be cast off. Soon after he said to the Physician, "Do you think, that I shall get through with time to-day?" being answered, "I should think so" he replied "I hope I shall be favoured to wait the dear Master's time, that is the best time": and often during the day, manifested an earnest desire to be preserved in patience. To a friend who came to see him, he remarked "I am near the close of time, and all is peace. I feel nothing in my way" and with a countenance full of expression, he said "It is a great favour, a favour indeed at such a time as this." At one time, two of his sons standing by his bed, he took each of them affectionately by the hand, and earnestly entreated them to live in love, that so they might be helpful to each other, and evidenced an earnest solicitude that they might faithfully walk in the path of known duty. Soon after, addressing his wife, he said "I am very near the final close. The time has nearly come, when we must be separated – but the separation will not be long, for thou will soon follow me. Hold fast that which thou hast received, that no man take thy crown" Many of his friends and acquaintance coming to see him, he received them with evident feelings of solicitude for their future well-being, and was favoured to give them such counsel and advice as seemed applicable to their several states.

About five in the evening he called for his wife, saying he wished to take leave of her, and affectionately embracing her and uttering several consoling expressions, he said "Farewell, farewell in the Lord". The other members of the family, and many of his relatives and friends coming in, he commenced taking his final leave of them; and in a very striking manner, was

favoured to communicate sweet instruction to each of them, from the aged brother and sisters to the small children. This occupied nearly two hours, during which time Divine assistance was evidently granted, his voice continuing pretty intelligible, and his communications being accompanied with a remarkable evidence of Holy Help. Soon after this period of opportunity, his voice expiring faint and the distress occasioned by the disorder being very severe, it was difficult to understand all he wished to express. This state of suffering continued about three hours; after which he seemed entirely delivered, and passed quietly away the 28th of 8th month 1846, aged about 79 years. On the 30th his remains were interred in Friends burying ground in Plainfield, after a large and solemn meeting; and although the mournful reflection is left upon the minds of his surviving friends, that a faithful pillar in the Church has been removed from our midst; yet it is accompanied with a sweet remembrance of the promise that "To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne".

Signed on behalf, and by direction of the Meeting aforesaid held at Plainfield the 13th. of 5 month 1847

John Page
Hannah Page, Jr. } Clerks

At Salem Quarterly Meeting of Friends held at Pittsgrove the 27th. of 5th month 1847—

The foregoing testimony concerning our late beloved friend John Page, being read, was united with, and the Clerk was directed to make an endorsement thereon, certifying our approval thereof, and sign it on our behalf, and forward it to the Meeting for Sufferings.

Signed on behalf of the Meeting,

Samuel Boyce, Clerk
Sophronia Page, Clerk.

Memoir concerning our late beloved friend Phebe B Tabor, wife of Joseph Tabor, of Albion, Maine, and daughter of Isaac and Sarah Buffum.

We deeply feel that in this instance of mortality, our Society is deprived of an exemplary and useful member; of one, who through faithfulness to the discoveries of Divine Grace, was enabled to live a careful, circumspect life. Measurably clothed with a meek and quiet spirit, she manifested a steady concern for the promotion of the cause of Truth and Righteousness, being diligent in the attendance of our religious meetings, and exemplary in a solid, quiet waiting therein. She was an affectionate wife, a tender mother, and a kind neighbour; open hearted to those who stood in need of relief, and very desirous that love and unity might be maintained in families, in neighborhoods and in the Church, being a good example herein herself. During the time that she was mostly confined at home, through bodily weakness, she was favoured with patience and resignation, which, with her innocent and meek deportment, ministered instruction.

She had been sensible, for several months, that her time here would be short; yet she cherished a hope that she might be spared a little longer to her dependent family, which she felt, very much needed a mother's care—but after a season of severe struggle, she was, through the unmerited mercy of her Heavenly Father, enabled to resign all to him, believing that his paternal care would be extended to them. About this time of distress, which we have spoken of, a friend in the ministry called to see her, and said that all was well; that there was a mansion prepared for her; that she and hers would be cared for, which seemed for a time, to relieve her, almost, disconsolate mind. But it was permitted that her faith, should again be tried; at which time, she was left to doubt the truth of the message, which had been delivered to her; saying, it was so much more than she deserved, that she feared it was not so; and was almost ready to conclude that the Summer was past, the harvest ended, and she was not gathered. But He, who knoweth the sincerity of the heart, was pleased again to arise with healing on his wings, and disperse the clouds. She then said the blessed Saviour had condescended to shew her, why she could not see his face; that it was because she had not enough given up the things of this world—but was too much concerned for the comfort of those she must leave behind. As her strength failed, she appeared to be engaged, with much deliberation and composure of mind, to prepare for the approaching event, and often spoke of it with much resignation. She was when in health, a frequent reader of the Holy Scriptures; yet, she said what she most regretted, was, that she had not spent more time in the perusal of them, and with a heart turned to the Lord for instruction. When she became unable to read, she often requested to have a portion of them read to her. Very earnest were her desires that her children should frequently seek instruction from the inspired page, and when she thought her end might be near, she had them called around her,

and gave them much good advice, and requested them to refrain from reading newspapers on the First day of the week, as it was calculated to destroy our love for reading the Holy Scriptures, and religious books, which she knew by experience; having in times past indulged somewhat in it. On the 20th of the 5th Month, after making all of the arrangements that she wished to, she observed that she had done with all things here, and said she saw nothing in her way, all was calm, quiet and pleasant, and she had no fear of death. She often craved that her patience might not fail, and that she might be preserved from any murmuring word or thought, which request, it is believed, was granted her.

After being, for a long time, in great distress, she exclaimed, Oh! Heavenly Father, if it be consistent with thy most holy will, be pleased to grant me a little rest, nevertheless, not my will, but thine be done; after which she laid more quiet. The 21st. She remarked, that she thought we might look for the message at any time. Her husband observed, that he supposed she was prepared to meet it. Yes! she replied - it will be a happy release to me. The morning of the 22d, being in much distress, she requested those around her to pray the Father, that he would be pleased to take her home. She quietly expired between 4 and 5 in the evening, in the 43d. year of her age: and our humbly trust is gone where all tears are wiped from her eyes, and sorrow is unknown.

The Committee on memorials forwarded the within account of Phebe B. Taber, which being read, was united with by this and the women's meeting, and the Clerk directed to forward it to the Quarterly Meeting.

From the minutes of Unity Monthly Meeting of Friends held the 19th of 11th month 1846

Asa Jones, Clerk.

Unity Monthly Meeting forwarded a memorial of the life and sayings of Phebe B. Taber, which, being read, was united by this and the Women's meeting, and the Clerk is directed to forward it to the Meeting for Sufferings, with this minute endorsed thereon.

From the minutes of Vassalboro' Quarterly Meeting of Friends, held 12th of 2d Month 1847.

Asa Jones, Clerk.

Testimony of Uxbridge Monthly Meeting, Massachusetts, concerning Lydia Reed, deceased.

It is under a sense of the privation we have sustained in the removal by death of our late beloved friend Lydia Reed, and that others may be encouraged to follow her as she followed Christ, that we are engaged to issue this brief memorial concerning her, and to bear our testimony to the efficacy of that Grace, by which she was preserved, and through the power of which, she became a pillar in the Lord's house, and a mother in the Church.

She was born in Leicester, in the County of Worcester and State of Massachusetts the 16th. of 2d month 1777. Her parents, Eber and Sarah Estabrook were concerned to bring up their family with care, and to impress upon them the necessity of correct habits, and of living in the fear of the Lord. This Christian concern had its influence upon her youthful mind; and although inclined to indulge in a lively disposition which was natural to her, her veneration for her parents was such that she regarded their wholesome restraints, and in advanced age, expressed, that the remembrance of this filial obedience, had been a consolation to her through life. Many were the baptisms through which she passed in her early years, and the refining fire of the Lord was kindled in her heart, while yet very young, purifying and cleansing it from the evil appertaining to it by nature. Among her memorandums is the following upon this subject: "From childhood to mature age I was tenderly visited as with the day-spring from on high. The necessity of entire submission and dedication of heart was plainly opened to view; my weaknesses and short comings rested heavily upon me, but the Lord working with me, and for me, I was enabled to seek and obtain forgiveness." Yielding herself unto the manifested requirements of her Heavenly Father, after seasons of very close conflict, she spoke a few words in the ministry in a public meeting for divine worship in the 19th. year of her age; and great was the peace of mind she witnessed. As she continued faithful in the discharge of her apprehended duty, she was encouraged by Him who had called her into this field of service; and although her public communications were generally concise, they were weighty and edifying, and her gift was acknowledged by her friends of Uxbridge Monthly and Smithfield Quarterly Meetings, when she was about 26 years of age.

"In the 23d year of her age she was married to John Hey, late of Bolton, Massachusetts, with whom she lived, at that place, highly esteemed by Friends and others about eight years; when in the 5th month, 1813 her husband was removed from her by death, leaving her with five small children. In the 10th month 1814 she was married to our friend Enoch Reed; a worthy Elder in our Society, remarkable for his uprightness and probity, and came to reside within the limits of this Monthly Meeting.

In 1821, Enoch and Lydia Reed were selected as Superintendents of

the Yearly Meeting Boarding School at Providence; and for more than twelve years they discharged the varied and important duties incident to that station, in a manner that redounded to the benefit of the children placed in that Institution, to their own peace, and to the satisfaction of Friends. When the infirmities of age and of declining health admonished them of the necessity of retiring from the arduous duties in which they had been thus industriously engaged, they returned to this Meeting and were gladly welcomed by us, where they continued to reside until both were taken from us by death.

To our beloved friend Lydia Breed, was granted a discerning spirit, by which she was enabled to distinguish with much accuracy between thing and thing; and while she was ever ready to extend a helping hand to the feeble and trembling ones, and to uphold the weak, she was unflinching in the exposure and condemnation of error, not regarding the effects upon herself of the faithful discharge of her duty, being remarkably preserved from a time-serving policy, in which some are ensnared by seeking popular favour and applause. As a wise counsellor we can bear our testimony that we have been wont to resort to her, and have had great cause of thankfulness to our Heavenly Father for the ability he was pleased to impart to her, by which she was, from time to time, enabled to administer salutary counsel and advice and to be instrumental in supporting the order of the Gospel, and the Christian discipline of the Church.

She was a few times liberated for religious service in different parts of this and New York Yearly Meetings; which visits were performed to the acceptance of Friends and the solid peace of her own mind — but she did not feel that it was required of her to travel much from home. Her ministry was sound and edifying, being in the demonstration of the spirit and of power. Her communications in our meetings, were not very frequent, but being uttered under the influence of the fresh anointing, they were baptizing, impressive and instructive. She was thoroughly established in the doctrines of the Christian Religion as professed by Friends, a full believer in our Lord Jesus Christ, as he came in that prepared body to do his Father's will, as he died for us on Calvary, a propitiatory offering for the sins of the world, as he arose again and ascended on high, giving gifts unto men, as he ever liveth our adorable intercessor and Mediator at the Father's own right hand. She was a sincere and practical believer in his spiritual appearance in the heart; and felt it is the blessed privilege which all may witness to know the Holy Spirit to guide and direct us in our pilgrimage here, and that it is through his power alone that we are qualified for every good word and work. Being thus settled in the Truth, she was prepared, through the aboundings of Grace, to declare unto others what the Lord had done for her and to set forth the way of salvation in and through a crucified Saviour.

She was zealously concerned for the maintenance of the Discipline of the Church; and very skilful in administering it; often successfully exerting herself, through divine aid, in calling back the wanderers and restoring those who had strayed from the right way. Her example in attending all our religious meetings,

even when her health was much impaired, was very instructive and deserving of imitation. Very frequently has she been with us in our religious assemblies when her strength was so enfeebled that those of less energy or of weaker faith, might have believed that their physical infirmities quite disqualified them from making the effort; and greatly has it been to our comfort and edification; and we have cause to believe, to her peace that she thus united herself to be with us at such seasons. She had uninterruptedly attended our Yearly Meeting for many years, and performed this duty, for the last time in 1845, and faithfully united with Friends in the support of right order on that trying occasion, bearing her testimony unflinchingly to the Truth and comforting and encouraging those whose hands hung down. Although she was at this time very feeble, she had earnestly desired once more to meet with her friends in their annual assembly, and we believe she was enabled to attend every session of that precious meeting. After her return home her health, gradually, though not rapidly declined, yet she continued to attend meetings, to visit the sick to whom her presence was peculiarly acceptable, and to receive visits from her friends. Her conversation was instructive and often animated and attractive — and the lessons of her wisdom and experience, we trust will long be remembered by many. As her strength failed she was more and more confined to the house, but her interest in the concerns of Truth did not apparently abate and she continued to be resorted to and consulted on subjects of importance either relating to individuals or to the Church. She deliberately set her house in order, and waited patiently for the coming of her Lord, trusting confidingly in Him, and placing no dependance in any works that she had done. She realized that she felt herself to be an unprofitable servant, wholly unworthy of a place in the Heavenly Kingdom; — and resting all her hopes in the blessed and adorable Saviour, in and through him, she was enabled to testify to her sustaining faith and consoling belief that her sins were forgiven, and her robe washed and made white. She often spoke of her approaching change; and, at times, expressed her longing desire to be a partaker of the joys of heaven, of which, at seasons, we believe she was permitted in a remarkable manner to have a foretaste. Her bodily sufferings towards her close, were sometimes severe; but she was preserved in much patience, quietly waiting the Lord's appointed time; and on the 25th day of the 4th Month 1847, this dedicated servant and minister of Christ was released from all conflict, and, as we reverently believe, removed from the Church militant on Earth, to the Church triumphant in Heaven; being in the 71st year of her age.

May her survivors in contemplating the life and death of this dear friend, remember that, through the grace of God, she was what she was: And that this grace proved sufficient for her through life and at the hour of death giving her the victory over the grave.

Signed on behalf and by direction of Weare Monthly Meeting of Friends held in Hopkinton 11th of 5th Month 1848

John Paige
Hannah Paige Jun } Clerks

At Salem Quarterly Meeting of Friends held in Salem
25th. of 5th month 1848–

A Testimony from Ware Monthly Meeting concerning our late beloved friend Lydia Sisson was at this time received; and being read and approved, the Clerk was directed to make an endorsement thereon, certifying our approval thereof, and forward it to our Meeting for Sufferings

Signed on behalf of the Meeting
Samuel Boyce, Clerk
Sophronia Sage, Clerk.

Testimony of Windham Monthly Meeting of Friends, Maine concerning Noah Read, deceased.

Although considerable time has elapsed since the decease of our dear aged and worthy friend in the Church, Noah Read yet the remembrance of him is still fresh in our recollection, and we believe it right to preserve the following brief testimony.

He was born in Attleborough State of Massachusetts the 22d of 9th Mo. 1757 of parents not in profession with Friends; and in the 31st year of his age he was received a member of Falmouth Monthly Meeting, of which this Monthly Meeting was then a part. Of his previous life, little has come to our knowledge; but from this time he appears to have enlisted in the cause of truth and righteousness in the earth and was concerned that his life and conversation might be answerable to the profession he was making. He was for many years more or less engaged as a teacher of the youth, members of our Society, in the common branches of School learning, which service he performed much to the satisfaction of his friends. He was a zealous friend of the aborigines of this country, and when the situation of the Penobscot tribe of Indians engaged the attention of our Yearly Meeting, he was early appointed one of a Committee to look into their situation, and for many years gave more personal attention to that concern than any other individual. He often visited them at their location, and going from cabin to cabin, would enter into free converse with them, and endeavour to turn their attention to the duties of religion and civilized life, and to instruct them in the arts of husbandry and building. In this way his labors were very useful.

In the year 1800 he was appointed an Elder, which station he very acceptably filled during the remainder of his life; being sound in faith and doctrine, of a clear discerning spirit; and although at times, a sharp reprover of that which was wrong, yet feeling and tender towards the humble and diffident, often speaking a word of encouragement to them. And it may be truly said of him, that he was as a father in the Church an Elder who ruled well. The weightings of his spirit has often been felt to be strengthening when no words have been uttered, and in our meetings for discipline, especially in the latter part of his life, he was remarkably concise and comprehensive in his expressions, and continued to give evidence that he had deeply at heart, the welfare of our Society.

When the spirit of insubordination and disaffection made its appearance among us, which in 1845 resulted in a small secession in this Yearly Meeting, he early became sensible that it was the work of the enemy, and was concerned faithfully to warn Friends of the danger of being imperceptibly captivated by it. As age and disease advanced upon him, he was prevented from participating in the more active concerns of Society, yet he retained a deep and lively interest in its welfare to the last. To a friend who called to see him during his illness, he remarked that although he could not attend meetings with us, yet he was in mind

and spirit thereof; and he advised that friends should be patient, but firm in the maintenance of the discipline, for he had seen that those who had become disaffected must return to the bosom of society or they would be scattered and come to nothing.

The disorder which terminated his life was of such a nature that it occasioned serious bodily suffering yet he bore it all with christian fortitude and patience: and during the whole of his sickness, not a murmur was known to escape from him - but he cheerfully acquiesced in the Divine Will, evincing a deep concern and exercise of mind to weave it all as from a merciful God, permitted for the furtherance of his own blessed cause. Although he expressed but little as to the state of his mind, yet he was repeatedly heard to say that he saw nothing in his way. Thus having been concerned to do his day's work in the day-time, he was found in the evening of life, in a humble childlike state of mind, quietly waiting for the coming of his Lord. "Blessed are those servants, whom the Lord when he cometh shall find watching." He quietly departed this life on the 16th of 1st month 1844 in the Eighty Seventh year of his age.

Given forth by Windham Monthly Meeting of Friends held the 28th of 1st month 1848

Oliver Pope
Sarah W. Pope } Clerks.

The foregoing Testimony concerning our late Friend Hoag Head, having been read at this time, was fully united with by this and the Women's meeting; and the Clerks are directed to sign it on behalf of this Meeting, and forward it to the Meeting for Sufferings.

From the minutes of Falmouth Quarterly Meeting of Friends, held at Windham 2d of Month 3d 1848

Samuel Jones
Lydia H. Jones } Clerks.

Testimony of New Bedford Monthly Meeting respecting Abraham Shearman, Junr.

Feeling it required of us to preserve a memorial of the services rendered to the Church by our late beloved friend Abraham Shearman Junr. and of his devotedness to the promotion of the cause of its Holy Head, the following sketch of his life and character has been drawn up for the encouragement of those that may come after, that they too may, by patient submission to the forming hand of our Heavenly Father and by attention to the in-shining light of Truth in their hearts, become qualified for usefulness while in this life and be prepared for a state of eternal blessedness hereafter

He was born at Acushnet in the Township of Fairhaven on the 4th day of the 4th month 1777. His parents Abraham and Peace Shearman, altho' professing with friends were neither of them members of our religious Society until the year 1815 when his father was received into membership, his mother having then been deceased many years. When about five years old he was attacked with a severe illness, which continued for several years, during a portion of which time he was under severe suffering with but little hope of recovery. His endurance of that suffering was quite beyond his age and altho' he did finally recover, it was not until disease had produced such a defect in one of his limbs as to prevent him from engaging in after life in any business requiring active exertion.

He was placed as an apprentice to a printer when about fifteen years of age, and at this period he appears to have been of a thoughtful turn of mind; one of his earliest memoranda containing a strong expression of thankfulness to his Heavenly Father for protection vouchsafed to himself and his near relations. After the expiration of his apprenticeship he for six years between 1798 and 1804 published a weekly newspaper at New-Bedford; in which he endeavored to avoid entirely the violent party contentions, which in that day so much distracted this country and embittered the feelings of so many of our citizens. His mind however being increasingly turned to religious subjects and not willing to yield his own convictions of duty to satisfy a perverted public taste, he found his peace required him to abandon his paper and about the same time he made application and was received a member of this Monthly Meeting

After discontinuing this publication he turned his attention to the Book-selling business which he carried on nearly thirty years and in which he was engaged scrupulously to avoid every thing of a hurtful tendency or that did not strictly conform to a nice sense of Christian consistency. It was a settled practice with him not to allow his business avocations to interfere with his attendance of our mid-week meetings - always closing his shop for that purpose when necessary. And following out the recommendation of the Apostle "Let your moderation be known unto all men" he retired from mercantile pursuits when he had become possessed

of a moderate competency and for the last sixteen years of his life devoted his time and talents, more exclusively to the service of the religious Society to which he belonged, and to promote the well-being of his fellow creatures - thereby setting an example worthy of a father and an elder in the Church.

The early part of the year 1816 appears to have been a season of renewed visitation to his mind in which a call to a greater dedication of heart and to an entire surrender of his will to the Divine will was sensibly felt and ardent desires were raised that he might be enabled to part with every thing that might stand between him and his God. And we have reason to believe that an increased qualification was experienced to labor in the service of the Great Head of the Church, and that his spiritual eye was anointed to discern the subtle transformations of the adversary, by which in a few years after such inroads were made in our Society and which he was engaged with other dear friends, some of whom are now gone to their rest to withstand in the gentleness of a true follower of Christ. The following memorandum under this date was found among his papers. "My mind for some time past has been much impressed with the great importance of an entire surrender of my will to the Divine will - of attaining to that state of resignation in which I should be enabled to say, "Thy will O God be done." And though it has not been accompanied by a sense or intimation of any particular service to which I should be called, or any particular labor to perform - great have been my doubts and fears - great the shrivings of nature - and I have scarcely been able to do more than to put forth an aspiration, that I might be enabled to attain to such a state of resignation as with full purpose of heart to enter into covenant with my God. Some progress toward such a state, I hope has been made - and the secret prayer of my soul, in our meeting this day, has been - "May not thy hand spare, nor thy eye pity till thou hast made me what thou wouldst have me to be."""

He became a member of our religious Society from a thorough convincement that Friends professed the truth as it is in Jesus. The fundamental doctrines of the Gospel were we believe clearly understood and under all circumstances faithfully maintained by him - as well as the testimonies of Truth which are set forth and sustained by the precepts of Christ and his Apostles - Yet in all his intercourse with his fellow-men he manifested instructively the possession of that charity "which thinketh no evil - which vaunteth not itself - which hopeth all things." Gentle and persuasive in his manner he rarely gave offence to those whose course he felt obliged to reprove, or condemn - and we believe few will be found who were more universally beloved or who in the faithful maintenance of our Christian discipline were more uniformly preserved in that meek and quiet spirit which subdues opposition and commends itself to the heart. Endowed with more than ordinary talents - with a mind well cultivated and disciplined and all under the influence of divine Grace - and viewing the discharge of religious duty paramount to all other considerations, he was eminently qualified

for usefulness; and was early called to fill many important stations and appointments in our religious Society to the edification and entire acceptance and satisfaction of Friends.

He fully felt the truth of the declaration and remarkably exemplified it practically, that "wisdom dwells with prudence"

He was liberal and charitable in his disposition - ever ready to lend a helping hand to the needy or unfortunate, and particularly so when the cause of Truth or the welfare of its professed followers could be promoted by his means.

The guarded education of the Youth of our Society was an object of great interest with him - and the attention he gave to the right ordering of the Boarding School at Providence will long be remembered with interest and instruction by the Committee with whom he was associated, as well as by many who have been inmates of that Institution

In the year 1819 he was appointed Clerk of New England Yearly Meeting which station he continued to occupy until 1840 when on account of his physical infirmities he was released from this service - He was favored to discharge the important duties of this appointment with that tender regard to the feelings of all and with that clear religious discrimination which obtained the full approbation and unity of Friends.

Few persons will be found who more fully enjoyed the perusal of the Holy Scriptures, or more highly valued their sacred contents - His diary gives evidence that it was his practice to read portions of them every morning and evening, and at other times as he had opportunity during each day; and that he sought in this engagement to be prepared of that solid frame of mind - of that prayerful spirit in which he might know the saving truths contained therein made plain to his understanding and applied to his heart. The following memorandum manifests his appreciation of Gospel Truth and the interest with which he perused the Sacred Volume.

"1836 1st Month 9th. The portions of Scripture that have been read since the commencement of the year embracing the first ten chapters of Genesis - the last two chapters of Luke - the whole of the Evangelist John, and the first of the Acts of the Apostles - are perhaps as deeply interesting as any equal portion of the inspired writings. The creation of the world - of man in the image of his Maker - his fall, and the promise of one that should bruise the serpents head - the mighty flood that came upon the earth for the wickedness of man - when all the fountains of the great deep were broken up and the windows of Heaven were opened and "all the high hills" and the tops of the mountains were covered with waters - and man and all flesh died that moved upon the earth, save eight persons Noah and his family, and the creatures preserved alive with him in the ark - the gracious promise, that the waters should no more become a flood to destroy all flesh - that while the earth remaineth seed-time and harvest and cold and heat and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease - The token of the

bow – The peopling of the earth are all subjects of an highly interesting nature and of which we have no other authentic history – But how transcendantly important to man are the truths unfolded by the Evangelists – He who had once for the wickedness of man swept over the face of the earth with a mighty flood, so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. He who in the beginning was the Word who was with God and was God, and of whom the Apostle declared, that all things were made by Him, and without Him was not any thing made that was made – condescended to take upon himself our infirmities and to bear our sicknesses – was made flesh and dwelt among us – He that was the true light that lighteth every man that cometh into the world – He who declared that He and his Father were one – and that he had power to lay down his life, and power to take it again – condescended in infinite mercy to lay down his life for the sheep – to suffer the humiliating death of the cross, for the sins of mankind. His triumphant resurrection and ascension into glory – the promise of another Comforter who shall abide with his faithful followers forever – these are themes in comparison with which, and those connected with and growing out of them, all others dwindle into insignificance" – How satisfactory is the attestation borne by our blessed Redeemer to the truths of the Old Testament, as recited in the 24th of Luke, when beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself." – and again, these are the words which I spake unto you while I was yet with you; that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the law of Moses, and in the Prophets and in the Psalms concerning me". – How comforting to his immediate Disciples must have been the parting discourse of their blessed Lord as recorded in the 13th to the 17th chapter of John, – and how full of important and instructive doctrines! – It is a portion of scripture upon which I have long delighted to dwell – and Oh! that my life was more conformed to the holy pattern therein set before us."

In the 1st month 1846 he had an attack of paralysis, which deprived him of the use of his limbs for the remainder of his days. His mind however remained clear and his faculties unimpaired. The following extract from a letter written in the 2nd month following shows the state of his mind at that time – "I am now occupying very nearly the same position that I did at the time of that parting farewell being entirely unable to move without assistance; but I desire not to murmur or complain at the afflictive dispensation that has been meted out to me in wisdom as I trust; but rather to number with a grateful heart, as far as ability is given me to do so the blessings which in mercy I am still permitted, unworthy as I am to enjoy."

About this time he delivered the books and papers of the Yearly Meeting into the charge of the Meeting for Sufferings, and left the following memorandum respecting the occurrence. – Delivered the Yearly Meeting Books and papers especially to a minute of the Meeting for Sufferings, after having had charge of

them for about twenty seven years, namely, since 6mo. 1819. And on looking back thro' this long series of years, I can truly say that it has been my endeavour to serve the Meeting as well at the table, as in what has been required of me out of meeting, in honesty and uprightness of heart - and that I retain a grateful sense of the uniform kindness which I have received at the hands of Friends - and while sensible that I have nothing to boast of there seems to be an allowable satisfaction in the feeling that I can leave the table without any feeling of uneasiness in the retrospect - with the consciousness that however I may at times have erred in judgment - there has been none of intention."

Notwithstanding his infirmity he attended the ensuing Yearly Meeting and was present at most of its sittings taking his usual lively interest in the concerns of Society and the welfare of its members. On his return home he made the following entry in his diary. "Arrived home less fatigued than I could have expected and glad that I had made an effort to attend this Yearly Meeting, through which we have had a continued evidence that we are not a forsaken people. May the praise be ascribed to him to whom it alone is due." The next day he adds "In my quiet chamber - sensibly feeling the difference between the cordial sympathy of friends whom I have left, and the solitude of my own reflections - a change no doubt necessary for the proper stay of the mind, in humble dependence upon Him from whom cometh every good and perfect gift."

He continued to get out to meetings, as they came in course with but few exceptions, and also to give attention to the concerns of Society which had rested with him for so many years until the 3rd Month 1847 when he experienced a second attack of paralysis and from this time his health and strength rapidly failed. "But as the time for holding our Yearly Meeting drew nigh, he became very desirous of once more attending it, and although it seemed doubtful whether he could do so and return, being very much enfeebled, yet he succeeded in performing the journey, and attended several sittings of the meeting, and Friends were comforted in again having him with them."

Not long after his return he became increasingly ill and his mind at the same time appeared to be much depressed but after a season of trial his usual equanimity was restored, and on this occasion he stated to a friend that his mind had been for some time tried but through great mercy he thought he could now say that he felt his way clear and could see nothing to fear - adding "what a favor it would be if I could be quietly removed."

To a friend in the ministry who remarked to him that she believed that although doubts might arise at times, yet before the final close he would have them all removed and be enabled to see with clearness that he had a mansion in the heavens, and there receive a crown of glory - he replied "I have no merit of my own but trust alone in unmerited mercy through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."

On a subsequent occasion he said to a valued friend that people sometimes

desired their friends to remember them when they had access to the throne of grace, but the feeling now with him was to desire his friends to join him in songs of praise and thanksgiving. To a relative he remarked "It has been my object through life to maintain a conscience void of offence toward God and man and I feel a degree of satisfaction in the retrospect: I thought thou might sometime wish to tell this to thy children".

Speaking of the concerns of Society, he said that he had endeavored to discharge his duty in this respect and felt peaceful in having done so - adding "perhaps there have been a few instances in which something better might have been done; but in the main I feel satisfied - I have nothing against any one personally - nothing but love and good will toward all".

A few days before his death he observed to a relative with whom he had long resided, "This poor body seems only an incumbrance". To which she replied she had no doubt he would be released from it in the best time. He said, "I hope so - I have no wish to stay. I have endeavored to do what I thought was right all my life through, and I feel willing and ready to go - I have far greater prospects in view than any thing this world affords".

He quietly breathed his last on the evening of the 26th of 12th Month 1847 in the seventy first year of his age. An Elder about twenty three years.

In closing this testimony of our beloved friend we feel it right to add that we are comforted by the evidence graciously afforded us that he realized the fruition of his hopes; and that through the merries of the Redeemer whom he loved he was admitted into those mansions that are prepared for the righteous, and that the language may with great propriety be adopted "the memory of the just is blessed".

Signed on behalf and by direction of New Bedford Monthly Meeting of Friends held 3d Mo. 22 1849

Wm C Taber
Sarah H Anthony } Clerks

At Sandwich Quarterly Meeting held at New Bedford 4 Mo. 5th 1849 -

A Testimony of New Bedford Monthly Meeting respecting our late beloved friend Abraham Shearman, Junr, was read in this Meeting and much unity having been expressed therewith the Clerk was directed to sign the same on our behalf and forward it to the Meeting for Sufferings,

From the minutes of said Meeting

Wm C Taber
Phebe R Gifford } Clerks

Testimony of New Bedford Monthly Meeting respecting Mary Card.

When it pleaseth our Heavenly Father to remove, from works to rewards a faithful laborer in his militant church, whose example and influence have been exercised for good, through a long life of faith and patience, it becomes survivors to keep them in remembrance, that in the view hereof, others may be incited to love and good works, and be engaged to walk by the same rule, and to mind the same thing, to the praise of that grace which sustained them amid the trials of time, and through the valley of the shadow of death.

Our late beloved friend Mary Card, the subject of this memoir was born at Newport, Rhode Island, fifth month, 12th. 1769, of parents who were not members of our religious Society, although her mother had been a birthright member, and appears to have always retained a regard for the principles in which she had been educated; to have been frequent in the perusal of the Holy Scriptures and the writings of early Friends; and her pious care had evidently a lasting effect upon the mind of her daughter. By memoranda found among her papers, we learn that, when very young, not more than nine or ten years of age, she was brought sensibly under the influence of Divine grace and was very serious and thoughtful, even at that tender age; but as she advanced in life, being naturally of a lively disposition, she gave way to an inclination to participate in the amusements of her youthful companions, and in the gaiety and fashions of the day. But this indulgence of self in vanity was not of long duration; for, yielding to the admonition of the still, small voice which reproves for sin, and points to the right path, she was led to renounce all that seemed so attractive and alluring to the youthful mind, and to take up the cross to her natural inclination in a remarkable degree; for, when the word was heard in the secret of her heart, she conferred not with flesh and blood, but from a sense of duty, and with a sincere desire to do her Heavenly Father's will, she renounced all, left her gay companions, and at twenty-one or twenty-two years of age, (as nearly as can be ascertained,) gave up to follow the Master in the way of his requirings, which led her into great simplicity, and into a surrender of what she believed called for. From that time until her removal from works to rewards, (at nearly eighty years of age,) she manifested in her Christian walk an example of faith and submission to the cross of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

By the records of Rhode Island Monthly Meeting, it appears she was received into membership tenth month, 30th. 1792, and in the twelfth month, 1795, she was married to the late Jonathan Card, and settled at Nantucket. In the twelfth month, 1796, they removed to New Bedford, and thereby became members of this Monthly Meeting.

Her public appearances in the ministry were approved by New Bedford

Monthly Meeting in the third month, 1818. Though her religious communications were not frequent or lengthy, yet, through Divine grace, we believe she was often favored to reach the pure witness in the heart. Her labors in the ministry were chiefly confined to the limits of her own Meeting, though she made a few visits to the families of Friends of neighboring Monthly Meetings, in which she was very acceptably engaged. Our dear departed friend was truly a mother in Israel, watching upon the walls of Zion, bearing the burden of the Lord before the people. She was of a diffident and retiring mind, and very humble in the estimation of her own abilities. Her reverent and solid deportment in meetings, of which she was a diligent attender to a late period of her life, even under much suffering from a painful disease, is still remembered by many, as instructive and encouraging.

She has left but little on record of the conflicts of spirit which were her portion in the strait and narrow way in which she was called to walk; but enough to shew that, in sincerity and truth, her desire was to do her day's work in the day time; and that, in childlike dependance on the gracious Arm of Strength, she "pressed forward towards the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

Her solicitude and care for her children, and those with whom she was associated, led her to improve such opportunities as offered to say a word in season for their encouragement; endeavoring to lead the young to the serious consideration of that which would conduce to their peace in a dying hour. By the side of the sick and dying, her simple faith and tender sympathy were calculated to give hope and comfort to the suffering, whom she would encourage to look to the source of consolation and mercy on which her own mind was so steadfastly fixed, and which she had found to be an unfailing help in needful time.

Some extracts from her memoranda evincing faith and the fervency of her desires are subjoined, as worthy of preservation.

"21st of 10th month, 1810.—Emerging almost as from the grave, wherein I have been made to see Thy wonder-working hand; Thy power above every other power; Thy goodness; Thy long-suffering, and unbounded love and mercy towards Thy poor creatures; I feel engaged to celebrate Thy most holy name, 'who art glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, working wonders through the might of Thy power.' Yet forever blessed and adored be Thy glorious name, 'who condescendeth to the low estates of the workmanship of Thy holy hands; pitying their fallen condition, their weakness and infirmity; their proneness to evil rather than good; and in Thy matchless loving kindness, Thou hast again stretched forth Thy helping hand to me who am wholly unable (unless Thou art pleased to be with and lead the way) to take one step aright for the promotion of Thy precious cause in the earth, or to the honor of Thy name, which has become very dear to me. Thy condescending love hath ravished my heart, inasmuch as Thou hast been pleased at seasons to enter therein, sometimes for its consolation and at other times for its improvement and refinement; holding forth the lamp

of Thy love, showing the spots and blemishes, pointing to the way to be healed of them all; which is bearing the cross daily, and following Thee in singleness of heart: denying self, and looking above the artful insinuations of the unveailed enemy unto Thee, the never-failing source of strength and support to all who put their trust in Thee."

"1819. — Thou O just and righteous Lord, wilt have a tried people, tried and proved. O, that every trial may be sanctified to my soul which Thou, O gracious Being, mayest see meet in Thy wisdom to suffer to overtake or come upon me; and that Thou, my Lord and Master, would endue me with grace to bless the means however sharp that enables me to see the depth of the iniquity that is in me. May I be so favored of Thee, as to improve under every such proof of Thy fatherly regard, and bless Thy holy name, that dost not leave me without Thy wholesome chastisements. If Thou but grant thy blessing of preservation, it is no matter by whom doses are administered, if they clear the mental sight, and the eye of the mind be reanointed to see Thy gracious designs in thus permitting the grand enemy so to buffet and employ his instruments, in order to overset Thy work in my soul. Wilt Thou, O dearest Lord, strengthen my trust, and hope, and faith in Thee; Thou who wast never foiled in battle; that through Thee, and Thy all-powerful saving help, I may become conqueror over all the evil propensities of my heart, and that I may be willing that all should come to the light, and be brought to Thy judgment and be judged down. Teach me more and more that it is in this way alone I can hope for justification from Thee."

"1833. — Oh! my soul, seek thou thy God: remember the gracious promise of the holy, blessed and ever to be adored Redeemer, that 'they that ask, shall receive; they that seek, shall find; and to them that knock, it shall be opened.' O, that I may seek for ability to ask aright for that succor my soul stands in need of; for He, the blessed dispenser of every good and perfect gift, alone knows what to give, that will most contribute to my furtherance in the things that belong to my soul's peace. May I not refuse to drink of the bitter cups sometimes administered; but, confidently rely on Him who can turn it into a blessing, by making hard things easy, and bitter things sweet, and is a present helper in every needful time. Blessed be his holy name for ever!"

The same trusting spirit, the same true faith, was, through her long life, the leading principle of her mind, and through many trying seasons, was her help and support. Her mind was often concerned for her children, on account of many of the pernicious publications of the day; that they might not spend their time in perusing that which would not tend to their improvement; and often was her advice, counsel, and persuasion employed to prevent as much as possible, the introduction of such reading among them. Her own example in regard to this was much in accordance with her principles, for, with the Holy Scriptures and the writings of those whose Christian experience and sound principles are strengthening to her

mind, her time was much occupied, and very pleasantly so to the last days of her life, affording much consolation in seasons of suffering and pain.

Thus did this humble Christian continue on in the path which she had chosen in early life; and so did she persevere to the end of the race, placing her faith and hope on that Almighty power which she felt to be her support, and to whom, with humble thankfulness, her praise was given, and her resignation to His will made manifest. Her last days were days of suffering to the poor body, so that some were almost ready to query in their minds why one so faithful, should be thus called upon to suffer and endure. She was often heard to say, she had never felt the least murmuring thought to arise; and in all humility would acknowledge she was sensible of the all-sustaining arm that had been with and kept her through her life to be underneath, bearing up and supporting in the hour of deep distress, believing her mind was safely anchored on Christ the Rock of Ages, against which nothing could prevail.

A friend, who visited her in her last sickness, thus speaks of the interview: "I found her in a quiet and sweet frame of mind, suffering much from a fatal malady, but enduring it with truly exemplary patience. She expressed her strong desire that she might be thus sustained until the time of her departure should come, and declared that she was then witnessing that support and well-grounded hope, which is alone to be found in a firm belief that mercy would be extended to her through Jesus Christ our Saviour, in whose merits she trusted, and through whom, as the only Door, she looked for an entrance into the fold of safety."

She sweetly departed to her rest on First day, the twenty-seventh of second month, 1848. A minister about thirty years. "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord, for they rest from their labors, and their works do follow them."

Signed on behalf and by direction of New Bedford Monthly Meeting, held second month, 28th, 1850

William C. Tabor,
Sarah H. Anthony, } Clerks.

At Sandwich Quarterly Meeting, held at New Bedford, fourth month, 4th, 1850, the testimony of New Bedford Monthly Meeting respecting the exemplary life and services of our late beloved friend Mary Card, was read in this Meeting to our satisfaction and acceptance, and the Clerk was directed to forward it to the Meeting for Sufferings.

From the minutes of said Meeting.

William C. Tabor,
Mary A. Tucker, } Clerks.

Testimony of Weare Monthly Meeting (N. H.) concerning
Ruth Osborne.

Although some time has elapsed since the decease of this beloved friend, yet the remembrance of her is sweet to many of us, and a desire prevails to preserve some account of her exemplary life, her devotion to the cause of truth, and her peaceful close: hoping that others may be encouraged to "walk by the same rule and mind the same thing."

She was born at Seabrook, New-Hampshire the twenty-sixth of ninth month 1765. Her parents, Daniel and Mary Paige, were exemplary members of our Society, and removed with their family to Weare when she was about four years of age. The watchful care and salutary counsel of her parents were instrumental through the Divine blessing, in preserving her youthful mind in the path of virtue, and by yielding to the convictions of truth she was favored in early life to become, in good measure, established in the doctrines of the Christian religion. In 1784 she was married to Moses Osborne, which connexion continued about thirty-one years, when he was removed by death. By this trying dispensation she was left with the care of a numerous family, for whose preservation she manifested a lively concern; and being careful to wait for right direction, she was enabled to "rule well her own household." She was diligent in the attendance of our religious meetings; and when assembled with her friends on these occasions, her solid deportment, accompanied by a weighty exercise of mind, manifested a sense of the value and importance of that worship which is performed in spirit and in truth. She was for several years in the place of overseer, and was well qualified for that service; being frequently concerned to labor with offenders in the spirit of restoring love; when under no particular appointment and was often peculiarly favored to speak in a manner that carried conviction to the minds of those with whom she labored.

In the forty-seventh year of her age she was appointed an elder, which station she acceptably filled the remainder of her life. She was favored with a discerning spirit, and being sound in faith and in the doctrines of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, was prepared to detect and reprove that which was forward or out of the way, and to speak a word of encouragement to the humble and diffident. She was a lover of unity in the Church, and in laboring for the support of the discipline was engaged to seek Best Wisdom and enabled, even in times of peculiar trial, faithfully to discharge that portion of service allotted to her in tenderness and love. She occasionally offered a few words of exhortation in our meetings, which were truly acceptable and edifying; and her solid deportment was often strengthening, when no words were uttered. She was concerned to maintain a faithful testimony with regard to plainness, being in her personal appearance, the furniture of her house, and her manner of living, a pattern of meekness and simplicity; and it was cause of grief to her to witness in others a departure from

this ancient Christian practice.

She having endeavored, according to the ability afforded, to improve the talent committed to her, she was comforted and supported in her declining years by that hope which is "as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast." During her last illness, which continued several weeks, and was attended with much bodily suffering, she manifested much patience and resignation, and was often heard in supplication to the Father of Mercies for strength to endure all He might see meet to dispense, without bringing dishonor to His holy name. On the third of fifth month, 1844, she said, "I feel no anxiety whether to live or die, only to be resigned. I see nothing in my way: all seems clear." A few days after, she said, "My friends and connexions seem very near and dear to me, but I give them all up;" and she expressed a desire that the love they bore might remain with them. She requested that there might be nothing needless about her funeral, and desired that those who attended, might do it with solemnity.

The lively concern she evinced for the welfare of the Church, was evinced by the following expression: "I desire there may be standard-bearers raised up, faithful standard-bearers, to fill the places of the older ones, who are passing away. They are very much wanted in our Society. I want them to grow deeper and deeper and stronger and stronger in the truth." About this time she expressed, that the company of her friends afforded her much satisfaction, especially that of the young, for whose welfare she manifested a much interest, desiring that they might come more and more under the forming hand of their Divine Master, and thus become qualified for usefulness in the Church. Soon after she said, "If it were not for a hope in Christ, what should I do? but I am not left without faith. I do believe my never-dying soul will find a resting-place, which will make up for all." On the seventeenth, while under much suffering, she said, "Christ was in agony, so that he prayed his Father if it were possible that the cup might pass from him, yet did he say 'Not my will, but thine be done.'" And again: "There is no way to come to the Father, but to follow Christ through suffering." A few days after, she supplicated thus: "O, dearest Jesus, I beg that thou wouldst support me and give me strength to bear all my trials. O, dearest Father, I have none to look to but Thee and Thee alone. I am a poor sufferer. O, my God, do take me to thyself." After this, she was so reduced by the disease as to be unable to say much, but continued patiently to suffer until the twenty-seventh when she quietly passed away, aged nearly seventy-nine years. On the twenty-ninth, her remains were interred in Friends' burying-ground, near our Meeting-house in Ware, where a large and solemn meeting was held on the occasion.

Signed on behalf and by direction of the Monthly Meeting aforesaid, held in Ware the fourteenth of third month, 1850

John Paige
Hannah Paige } Clerks

(over)

At Salem Quarterly Meeting of Friends held in Seabrook, Twenty-Third of fifth month, 1850 a Testimony of Weare Monthly Meeting concerning our late beloved friend Ruth Osborne was at this time read and approved; and the Clerk was directed to make endorsement thereon of this minute, and sign it on our behalf and forward it to our Meeting for Sufferings.

Signed on behalf of the Meeting,

Samuel Boyce
Nehemiah Hoyt } Clerks.

A Testimony of Salem Monthly Meeting of Friends respecting Henry Chase, deceased, with some notice respecting his wife Betsey Chase, also deceased.

"The memory of the just is blessed." It is in the experience of many that the humble waiting of those who through faith and patience have inherited the promises of preservation now, and of a well-grounded hope of acceptance in the Beloved remaineth indeed blessed as an encouragement to those who come after them, in endeavoring through grace to walk by the same rule and mind the same thing.

The remembrance of the pious lives and peaceful deaths of our dear friends Henry and Betsey Chase being still living with us we are concerned to bear this our testimony respecting them.

He was the son of Moses and Rebekah Chase of Salem, who were Friends in good esteem and was born in that place on the eighth of the twelfth month 1773. His father dying ninth of ninth month, 1784, when he was low in age, the charge of him, with three other sons and two daughters devolved upon his pious mother who was favored so faithfully to discharge the duty to her children, as to leave behind her in their minds a very sweet remembrance.

He was early apprenticed to a mechanical employment, and having served his time during his minority, pursued for many years that calling.

In the year 1801, he was united in marriage with Betsey Abbot the daughter of Stephen Abbot, of Salem, she being then in the twenty-third year of her age.

Her father was a man of much respectability in the world, was an Episcopalian, in which way his daughter had been carefully educated. But she having been taught, through much suffering and disappointment, as well as mental conflict, the unsatisfying nature of our earthly enjoyments, and being graciously visited with the sacred intimations of the light of Christ in her mind, knowing her the emptiness of all mere forms of religion and worship, was made willing to renounce the gayeties and allurements of the world, to which by her situation in life she was exposed, and by which she was surrounded, and to cleave in the sense of Christ of the spiritual nature of true religion and as she through grace submitted herself to the purifying operations of the Holy Spirit, she became adorned with a meek and humble mind, and was enabled to take up the cross to her own inclinations, and to confess her Savior before men. Under these experiences she was concerned to unite herself in membership with Friends. She was received a member by this Monthly Meeting in the seventh month, 1800, in the twenty-second year of her age.

In her our dear friend was favored with a true and sympathizing companion and helpmeet, to whom he was nearly united during the remainder of her life.

She was a woman of a remarkably tender and sympathising spirit, feeling for others' sorrows and making them her own, willing to spend and be spent to alleviate their sufferings. She was a kind, tender and affectionate mother to her children; and, in divers instances, faithfully fulfilled the duties of a mother to the motherless and the orphan. Her mild and gentle spirit gently entered into the sorrows of those around her, and perhaps grew according to her ability, more fully to bear the burdens of others, and thus fulfil the law of Christ.

Her last sickness, with which she was attacked first month, twelfth, 1843, was sudden and of a distressing character, the croup; which she bore with great patience, expressing entire resignation to the Divine will saying, "she was in the hands of a merciful God, who doeth all things well." The nature of her disorder was such, that she could express but little; yet a holy calm evidently sustained her, until the morning of the seventeenth, when she quietly closed her useful life, and, we humbly trust, was permitted to join the innumerable company which surround the throne.

Of our dear friend Henry Cross advanced in years, it was graciously exalted, through the visitations of Divine love, to deepen in religious experience. His affections became more and more withdrawn from earth and earthly things, and set on things above.

In the gracious dealings of a merciful Saviour with him, he was led to pass through many and deep baptisms of spirit so necessary in order to know a passing from death unto life; so indispensable in order fully to realize the corruption of the natural heart, and to come to experience deliverance therefrom, and of being born again of the incorruptible seed by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever; of having the defilements of the soul washed away in the precious blood of Christ and former sins blotted out by and through that one great sacrifice for sin made without the gates of Jerusalem, and to experience redemption through Him the one only Saviour.

Under these experiences, he became qualified to speak a word in season to the weary and sin-sick soul; to comfort the mourners in Israel; and to encourage the weary traveller in Jerusalem, by pointing them to the alone source of true consolation, even unto Him, who of God is made unto the faithful wisdom and righteousness, sanctification and redemption. He was also concerned to admonish the lukewarm and careless, and to warn the in different stirring up the pure mind in all to diligence in the work of the soul's everlasting welfare.

He first spoke in the ministry, as we believe, as early as the year 1815; and, for a considerable time, his communications were in few words and not frequent, and delivered in great humility and fear. It was probably in reference to an occasion of this kind, that he made the following memorandum, under date of fifth month, twenty-seventh, 1817:— "This day has been a trying one to me.

O, that I may be found working out my soul's salvation in fear and trembling before the Lord. I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that I love him more than the loaves and fishes. "May I have a safe hiding-place, as under the shadow of his holy wing."

As he was faithful, his gift was enlarged, and he was enabled at times to set forth the abundant riches of Christ to a lost and fallen world. Yet he was ever humble: and humility of soul, to lie low as at the feet of the Master, reverently waiting there upon him for a renewal of spiritual strength was often the subject of his earnest exhortations.

There are many among us who well remember the impressions which accompanied his simple ministry, attended with no outward adorning, and how we, some of us at least, sympathised with him when we saw him stand tremblingly before the people, to cast in his mite into the treasury of the Lord. In supplication, as we reverently believe he was sometimes favored with near access to the throne of grace.

He was acknowledged as a minister by this Monthly Meeting in the first month, 1829. His religious services were mostly confined to his own Monthly and Quarterly Meetings, though he occasionally visited neighboring Quarterly Meetings.

In all that he said, his desire appeared to be to do all to the glory of Him who had done so great things for him, and to ascribe all to His free grace. His memorandums all bear the impress of a true Christian spirit, no dependance upon man, but entire dependence upon the merits of a crucified and risen Lord. They throughout bear evidence of a lively zeal for the ever blessed Cause, and he often alludes to deep baptisms, through which he had to pass, which were known only to him and to his God. We believe he endeavored to walk carefully and with great circumspection among men, and faithfully to occupy the talents committed to his charge. To visit the sick and the afflicted was, for much of the time of his religious life, an occupation in which he was much engaged: and in imparting true Christian counsel, and leading the dejected mind to the true Source of true consolation, we believe he was often helped and qualified.

His religious sympathies were limited by no narrow bound. The followers of the Lamb, of whatever denomination among men, were recognized and owned by him as subjects of the same divine grace, the heirs of the same salvation; and among the tender-visited which he visited of various religious professions, he is spoken of with great love and veneration evidencing that such was the purity of his Christian character, that it was seen and acknowledged by all whose hearts had been touched by the quickening influences of that Spirit, to whose operations he had in so large measure submitted.

As he grew in years, the infirmities of age settled upon him and he was for several of the last years of his life infirm and weak, his mind partaking of the weakness of his body. In this feeble state, in which he seemed to have nothing to do but to die, his mind dwelt much on heaven and heavenly things.

A childlike simplicity and innocence of mind were conspicuous with him, and the company and conversation of the devoted and religiously inclined were then, as ever, enjoyed and highly prized by him. His feebleness of body and mind gradually increased with increasing years, accompanied by great quietness of spirit, evidencing that his day's work having kept pace with the day, little remained for him to do but patiently wait till his change should come.

His last sickness commenced the thirty-first of fifth month, 1846, and from that time he was confined to his bed, when he observed that he felt very peaceful, and was not afraid to die. On the fifth of sixth month following, his mind became much brighter than it had been for a long time previous, and near the middle of that day, for an hour or more, much of the clearness and vigor of his former state, when in health, returned. During this time, he said, "that he was now going to his everlasting rest, and that he felt great love for every one." He desired that his friends in the neighborhood might be called in, which was done; and as they stood around his bed, he said, he wished to express to them how much peace he had enjoyed in living together with them and now, as he was about to leave them, he desired it might be with the same precious feelings." He called to mind circumstances which had occurred in his youth, and observed, "I find the Lord is not slack concerning his promises." And speaking of some who had weakened in their love, he said, "They do not dwell deep enough."

It was indeed a fresh evidence of the tender mercies of the Lord, that, although through the infirmities of the flesh he was for many years bowed down, and little seemed left for him to enjoy in this life, yet as he drew near to the confines of another and a better world, that Spiritual life seemed to be renewed, and to the encouragement of those he left behind, was permitted to shine forth with increased brightness.

He quietly departed sixth month, eighth, 1846, aged upwards of seventy-two years; a minister over thirty years. Thus passed away, we reverently trust, from earth to heaven, one truly beloved. He was buried in Friends' burial-ground in Salem, on the eleventh of sixth month, 1846, after a solemn meeting in Friends' meeting-house, wherein divers impressive testimonies were borne, and at the grave, (which also contained the remains of his deceased wife,) during a solemn pause vocal evidence was borne to the sufficiency of that grace which can alone enable to triumph over the grave, in the memorable language of Scripture, "O, death, where is thy sting! O, grave, where is thy victory?"

Signed by direction and on behalf of Salem Monthly Meeting of Friends, held in Lynn, ninth of fifth month, 1850.

Samuel Boyce,
Eliza B. Boyce,
} Clerks.

At Salem Quarterly Meeting of Friends held in Salem twenty-third of fifth month, 1850 a testimony of Salem Monthly Meeting concerning our late beloved friends Henry Chase and his wife Betsey Chase was at this time read and approved; and the Clerk was directed to make an endorsement thereon of this minute, and sign it on our behalf, and forward it to our Meeting for Sufferings.

Signed on behalf of the Meeting.

Samuel Boyce,)
Sophronia Page) Clerks.

Testimony of Unity Monthly Meeting of Friends concerning our Beloved friend John Warren, deceased.

In the removal from the militant Church of our beloved friend John Warren, we feel engaged to furnish the following testimony concerning his exemplary life and devoted labors for the promotion of truth and righteousness among men that others may be encouraged to follow him as he followed Christ.

He was born at Rustol, State of Maine, the twenty-eighth of eighth month, 1775, of parents not in profession with us, who subsequently removed with their family to Alesbori. Owing to his remote situation from Friends, but little of his early life and the circumstances of his convincement, which was as follows, or nearly so. He was at sea, and alone at the helm, his watch in the night, when his mind became drawn to serious reflections. It then was opened to him that he must leave his present mode of life, and go home and take care of the little company around him, there being a number of seeking persons in his neighborhood. But he looking at his youth and inexperience, thought it could not be so. The reply was, that if he would attend to what had been manifested to him, he should be assisted; but if he refused, he would find a watery grave. He concluded if he could be assisted, he would close in with the intimation; and on his return home, he sold out his interest in vessels, and abandoned a seafaring life. The result was, that his parents, who had opposed his views, became reconciled to them, and ultimately, with some others, joined Friends, and a meeting was held for some time at his house. Here we have a strong evidence, that He whose promises are faithful and true, is a covenant-keeping God to those who covenant with him.

A number of Friends traveling in the ministry, paying religious visits to the island where he lived, both before and after his convincement, and he was often the subject of their concern and labor. Through a submission to frequent baptisms he was favored, in due time, to make a full surrender to the Divine will, covenanting that if he could be strengthened, he would endeavour to follow the Heavenly Teacher.

He became a member of the Society of Friends in the year 1805, and about the year 1810, removed to Albion, where he continued to reside the remainder of his life. About that time, he first appeared in the ministry in a few words, much to the satisfaction and comfort of his friends. He was acknowledged as a minister in the fifth month, 1815; and in the eleventh month, 1816, received his first "minute" from the Monthly Meeting to perform a religious visit within the limits of Falmouth and Dover Quarterly Meetings. In the ninth month 1819, he was liberated to perform a visit, in the love of the Gospel, within the limits of New England and New York Yearly Meetings. From this

* have come to our knowledge. He has been heard to relate a circumstance that took place in the early part of his convincement,

time to 1834 he was engaged in several visits in our own and neighboring Yearly Meetings, including Baltimore and Ohio in which his labors were extensive.

In the fifth month of that year, he spread before Friends a prospect that for some years had attended his mind of religious service in the love of the Gospel within the limits of London and Dublin Yearly Meetings; and having the unity of his brethren in this land with his exercise, he embarked in the autumn of the same year for Liverpool and arrived there safely. While in that land he travelled with great diligence; and having performed what service required of him there, he returned in the tenth month 1835.

In 1836, and again in 1839, he visited parts of the provinces of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, where there was but one member of our Society residing at the time and but few who had ever heard of Friends and where no minister in Friend had visited for many years. Yet the good tidings of the Gospel of peace, proclaimed by him in "demonstration of the spirit and of power" were gladly listened to: many hearts were tendered and much openness generally manifested by the inhabitants, and seals of his baptizing ministry yet remain among them. On his way home he remarked that he believed the sacrifice would be accepted, and he felt his mind released from further service in those parts: adding, he now appeared open for the return of others, whose feet he believed, would be turned that way.

In the eleventh month 1840, he left home on a visit to Friends and others within the limits of Virginia, North Carolina and some parts of Philadelphia and Purchase Yearly Meetings, and returned in the summer of 1841, which was his last journey out of his Yearly Meeting.

On his return from each of these visits, he produced satisfactory testimonials of the sympathy and unity of Friends with his company and labors of love among them.

From his returning "minute" from the Yearly Meeting of Ministers and Elders in Great Britain and Ireland, we extract the following: "His ministry has been exercised in much simplicity and faithfulness, accompanied by the tendering influence of Divine love. His watchful and consistent deportment have been exemplary and acceptable to Friends."

He was diligent when at home, in the attendance of his own meeting, in visiting the sick and others under suffering, in attending the meetings constituting our Quarterly Meeting, and in sympathizing many among those not in profession with us, wherein he was often enabled to speak to the state of meetings and individuals with such clearness as afforded full evidence that his communications were in the authority which truth gives.

In these labors, he was made instrumental in the convincement and establishment of many on the only sure foundation, Christ Jesus our Lord. He was sound and clear in the doctrines of the Gospel, often explaining in a reverent and weighty manner, his sense of the universal effect of the fall of our first parents,

and of that redemption which is freely offered to all through the merits, sufferings and death of the Lord Jesus, and of his mediation and intercession with the Father for lost man; and often bore testimony to the efficacy of that free grace which is the gift of God unto salvation, unto all them that believe, through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, which hath appeared unto all men, and through repentance and faith produces the works of righteousness and peace.

As he believed in and lived under the blessed influence thereof, and became eminently qualified by example as well as precept, to disseminate the principles of the Gospel of peace among men. His ministry was mild and persuasive, giving full evidence that love to God and love to man dwelt richly in his heart, and his communications were often concluded with an exhortation to live in love; for as God is love, so those who live in him must live in love as nothing can live out of its own element; persuading all to an earnest pursuit of the things that belong to their peace. He was indefatigable in his labors to restore and preserve love and unity among brethren, and it might be emphatically said of him, that he was a peacemaker in the Church and in the world. These striking characteristics endeared him to all closer, so that he shared largely in the friendship and esteem of his fellow-men wherever he was known.

He was a pattern of patience and meekness. He was a devoted and affectionate husband and a tender parent. Interesting, and often very instructive in conversation; hospitable to strangers; kind and liberal to the poor, according to his means; and a good example of plainness in all respects.

We regret that so little has been found among the papers of our beloved friend, or from other sources, relating to his early life and convincement; owing, we trust, in part, to his unwillingness to speak or record any thing of himself; and we think best to add to the foregoing a remarkable circumstance which has been recently furnished by one who received it from the wife of our dear friend and the minister alluded to.

It appears that our beloved friend was laboring under a state of discouragement, tending almost to despair, so much so that, as he said, a smile was not seen on his countenance for about a year, he considering it a sin, and found no relief in any way or place he sought it, till through Divine favor, he was led to see that it was a stratagem of the enemy to overcome and mislead him: and that it was not only the privilege, but the duty of a true Christian, to be cheerful. Soon after, he was called into deep exercise from an apprehension that it was required of him to speak in public, which proved a great trial, and bowed him very low.

About this time a ministering friend from a neighboring Quarterly Meeting on a religious visit, came into the neighborhood where he lived and calling on a friend, informed him of a concern he felt to have a meeting at his house that evening. When being told the friend remarked that he could give notice of the meeting out for a short distance around. The minister replied, that it seemed

to him about one mile's distance was all he wished. The notice was accordingly given and our beloved friend being one of the small number notified came to the meeting. Here again he was brought into fresh exercise, as before to appear in the ministry; but feeling his own unworthiness and fearful it was a stranger of the name he shrunk from the call and craved for a greater evidence and that if it was right the Friend then present who was unknown to him should be led to speak to his case. The meeting had continued long in silence; the minister arose and remarked that his mind had been deeply exercised on behalf of some one in that little company who had as he apprehended been called upon by his Lord and Master to speak in public but had been disobedient; and since we had met, had felt a renewed call to speak but through fear and an honest desire to do right had secretly requested that the Lord would grant him an evidence if it was right by the Friend present being led to speak to my condition. It was an easy matter he said to decide whether what had been related was true or not; and after warning against disobedience, and encouraging to faithfulness if again called upon, he resumed his seat, the meeting soon closed. This short testimony set forth the true state of his mind and proved as a nail in a sure place. He conferred no longer with flesh and blood, but gave up to the heavenly vision.

This remarkable instance of Divine condescension to an honest and humble servant in the day of trial should encourage us to faithfulness to the Lord's command, and increase our faith in his power through which he reveals his will immediately and instrumentally for the benefit of those who fear and tremble at his word.

Our beloved friend continued to labor diligently within the limits of our own Yearly Meeting while favored with strength to travel not having returned his last minute when his health failed.

He was confined at home from declining health in the eight month 1848. During his sickness, which seemed to be general debility, often attended with great suffering his weakness was such most of the time that he could not bear the company of his friends, which he felt to be a great privation; saying "I never loved my friends more". At one time in allusion to his recovery, he remarked, "If it be the Divine will, I shall be raised again"; adding as he had often said before, "I have no will of my own which way it turns". He had often when in health, in speaking of the approach of the closing period remarked that he had but one wish in regard to it and that was that he might not outlive his usefulness. Having done his work in the day time, he seemed now to have little to do but calmly await his appointed time, evincing by his meekness and patience under suffering, and by the savor of his spirit, that the gracious arm of Divine Love was round about him. He was favored to feed upon that bread which sustains the soul enabling him to look forward with a triumphant hope, that death would have no sting, and the grave no victory.

He peacefully departed this life the tenth of the second month, 1849, in the seventy-fourth year of his age, and was interred on the thirteenth, having been a minister about thirty-four years. A large and solemn meeting was held on the occasion, wherein several living testimonies were borne to the faithfulness with which our dear friend had devoted himself to the promotion of universal peace and righteousness on the earth, and to the efficacy of that grace which had enabled him to become what he was, ascribing all the praise to the Lord God and the Lamb, to whom alone it is due, both now and forever.

Signed by direction and on behalf of Unity Monthly Meeting of Friends, held sixteenth of fifth month, 1850.

Joseph Taber,
Lydia R. Taber, } Clerks

The foregoing testimony of Unity Monthly Meeting concerning our dear deceased friend John Warren, was read in this Meeting, and, being approved, was directed to be forwarded to the Meeting for Sufferings.

By direction of Vassalboro' Quarterly Meeting, held at East Vassalboro', fifth month, thirty first, 1850

Joseph H. Cole,
Asa Elwin Lang, } Clerks

At a Meeting for Sufferings for New England Yearly Meeting, held at Newport the nineteenth of sixth month, 1850, —

On the reading of the foregoing testimony from Unity Monthly Meeting concerning our late beloved friend John Warren, who for many years was a useful and valued member of this Meeting, his memory was brought very sweetly before us, and we believe it right to record our testimony also to the efficacy of the operations of Divine grace so peculiarly exemplified in its effects upon our dear friend. The simplicity of his life, his careful walk, his love to his fellow-men, his devotion to the cause of our holy Redeemer, are worthy of the imitation of all, and were truly edifying and instructive.

Without those advantages of education, which are now possessed by most, his manners and his conversation were dignified and instructive; that gentleness and wisdom being manifested, which gave full evidence that he had been taught in the School of Christ. His ministry was powerful, persuasive, and baptizing, to which the declaration of the Apostle may in measure be applied: "My speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power." And in his approaches to the throne of grace in vocal prayer, a deep solemnity, a reverential awe, and a childlike dependence were manifested, which were truly solemnizing, tendering and strengthening. Through the grace of God he was what he was; and we fervently desire, that the power of this grace

thus exemplified, may prove confirming and encouraging to all, and that in humility and in faith we may be lovingly engaged to serve the same adorable Saviour, that at the end we may receive a crown of righteousness.

Signed on behalf of the Meeting.

Samuel Boyce, Clerk.

Testimony of Greenwich Monthly Meeting concerning Thomas Copland, deceased.

Thomas Copland, the subject of this memoir was the son of Daniel and Philadelphia Copland, and born at East Greenwich in the State of Rhode Island, the 23rd day of the ninth month 1765.

His parents were members of our religious Society and concerned to train up their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

In early life, our dear friend, from his own account was sensibly visited by the holy spirit and strengthened to bear the cross and to conform, in good degree to the requirements of duty; nor does it appear that at any time in his youthful course, he was left to stray far from the right way. He submitted himself to the baptism and purification of Him who sits as a refiner with fire we believe he witnessed the new birth, and became qualified for usefulness in the Church of Christ.

While yet a young man he was appointed an overseer in our religious Society, which station he continued to fill acceptably and usefully through a long series of years. In the year 1810, he was appointed to the station of an elder.

Our dear friend possessed, in no ordinary degree a sound discriminating mind, which caused his judgment and advice to be much sought and valued by his friends; hence he was often engaged in reconciling difficulties. His conversation was of an interesting character; and having an abiding engagement to promote the advancement of best things, he was qualified to instruct and to edify those with whom he associated.

The education of the youth was with him an object of great interest and concern, and for several years he was engaged in the occupation of a school teacher; and upon the opening of our Friends Monthly Meeting Boarding School in 1819, he entered it as one of the teachers and Care-taker, and very valuable were his services

in that institution.

The afflicted and oppressed of every class shared largely in his regard and sympathy. He was particularly concerned to extend his care and labors on behalf of that portion of our fellow-men who are held in bondage, and he was an unflinching advocate in their cause. And his labors were availing in rescuing several of that degraded people from a state of unjust servitude.

But it is more directly to his labors in the Church that we are engaged particularly to advert, and to set forth the excellency of that grace which prepared and qualified him for religious usefulness. As an elder in the Church he gave proof that the gift was from the Holy Head. His spirit, chastened, softened and enlightened by the same baptizing power and influence which alone qualifies for the exercise of the ministry, was prepared to enter into sympathy with those who were rightly engaged in this high calling, and to offer a seasonable word of encouragement to the humble dependent ones; while to those who needed help or admonition, he was ever found an efficient, faithful, and judicious friend and adviser. He was for a number of years a valued member and Clerk of the Meeting for Sufferings.

It is not to extol him as a man that we advert to his services; but we desire that his example of steadfastness, of unwavering faith, may prove encouraging and instructive to survivors. He was, without any compromise, a firm believer in the glorious means of salvation through a crucified Savior. He believed in him in all his various offices, as he came in that prepared body to do his Father's will; as he died for us on Calvary; as he rose again; as he ever liveth our adorable mediator and intercessor at the Father's own right hand. He received and believed in the doctrine of the immediate teachings and guidance of the Holy Spirit which was practically exemplified in his religious engagements and in his walks in life. Christ Jesus was the rock, the foundation upon which he built. He felt himself to be an unprofitable servant, but was sustained by the merciful assurance that help is laid upon One that is mighty; and at the close of his long life, he was enabled, in measure, to adopt the language of the Apostle, that he had fought the good fight, and had kept the faith; and we doubt not there is granted him a crown of righteousness.

As the closing moment approached, his mind appeared clear, calm, and collected: and although articulation was difficult he was understood to say that the Everlasting Arm was underneath, and all was well.

He departed this life on the nineteenth day of the fifth month, 1845, aged eighty-one years, eight months, and fourteen days, and was buried in Friends' burying-ground at East Greenwich after a solemn meeting of Friends and others. "The righteous hath hope in his death."

Signed on behalf and by direction of Greenwich Monthly Meeting of Friends, held at Coventry, fourth month twenty-ninth 1850.

Rebecca Peck,
Rebecca D. Parker, } Clerks.

At Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting of Friends, held at East Greenwich, fifth month, second 1850, a testimony from Greenwich Monthly Meeting concerning our beloved friend Thomas Howland deceased, was received at this time: and being read and approved the Clerks were directed to transmit the same to the Meeting for Sufferings.

Gilbert Congdon,
Sarah F. Tobey } Clerks.

At a Meeting for Sufferings for New England Yearly Meeting, held at Newport the nineteenth of sixth month, 1850 —

The foregoing testimony respecting our late dear friend Thomas Howland, having been read in this Meeting, and the remembrance of this dear friend being precious to us, we believe it right to testify, in addition that as a member, and for many years Clerk of this Meeting, his truly Christian deportment, his industry, and his mildness and gentleness of demeanor were very instructive; and we believe, in his labors of love in the administration of the Discipline in our Society, he was an example of humble dedication and uprightness. In this service he was often engaged, and devoted much time thereto, and in visiting meetings distant from his home. In these engagements, we believe he was careful to move under the Divine appointment, and was very useful in the promotion of right order, and of love and unity among Friends.

There are many among us, in various parts, who hold in pleasant remembrance his visits to them, and his upright and meek labors for the promotion of the best interests of the Society he so dearly loved, and the cause he had espoused. In his intercourse with the young, and especially as their teacher, the beauties of his character were conspicuous. The gentleness of his manner won their love; his sincerity and goodness, their respect and esteem. It was by love he influenced them, and in love that he sought to convince their judgments of the propriety of his instructions and wishes. And they loved him for his virtues, and were incited to love the truth from its effects as exemplified in his character.

He possessed in large measure the elements desirable in a Friend. With decision of character there was with him great mildness of spirit and charity for others in their opinions and even with their errors and faults. With decided conclusions of duty and unwavering religious faith there was a full acknowledgment of the sincerity of others, and a readiness to accord cheerfully to all, their just claims to sympathy and consideration.

He was sound in the faith and from deep conviction a believer in the truths of the Gospel, and of the consistency therewith of those precious testimonies which Friends are called upon to bear; and we believe he was very careful, by his consistent and upright walking, to manifest that faith. Yet his charity could embrace whatever was good or true in all, and found its exercise in the promotion of the happiness of all, and, as he found opportunity, in doing good to all men.

The excellencies of his character were, as we fully believe, the fruits of the Spirit, and of religious dedication to its renovating and sanctifying operations. He was not of himself but by the grace of God through Jesus Christ our Lord, that he was what he was; and to the excellency of that grace should be ascribed all the praise.

Signed on behalf of the Meeting.

Samuel Bowne, Clerk.

Testimony of Providence Monthly Meeting concerning Anna A. Jenkins, deceased.

It having pleased our Heavenly Father to remove from the Church militant our beloved friend, Anna A. Jenkins, we feel it incumbent upon us, for the benefit of survivors, to bear our testimony to the efficacy and excellency of that Power, and to the practical operations of that Grace, by which she was qualified and enabled to adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour, and to declare of his righteousness and his mercy to our edification and instruction.

It is not for man to scan the purposes of Infinite Wisdom, or to attempt to comprehend the ways of Him who giveth not account of any of his matters; but, humbled under His dispensations, it becomes us meekly to bow and to adore; and it is under a chastened feeling of our own nothingness and of his almightiness, that we recur to the manner of her transition from the present to an eternal state of being, on the morning of the twentieth of the eleventh month, 1849, by the burning of her dwelling-house in the city of Providence; she, with her eldest, affectionate, and beloved daughter, Sarah B. Jenkins, being unable to escape from the destroying flames. This event also very much deprives us of the records of her experience and of the dealings of the Lord with her, as penned by herself; her diary and numerous valuable papers having been destroyed.

She was the daughter of William and Sarah Almy, and granddaughter of Moses and Anna Brown, and born in Providence, Rhode Island, the first of ninth month, 1790. Her mother died while she was very young, and the care of her devolved upon her father, by whom she was most assiduously and tenderly guarded and carefully educated. As she approached to the State of Womanhood, it appears that the attractions of the world for a short season had their effect upon her young mind, and she felt a disposition to partake of its gayeties and fancied enjoyments; but deep filial regard for the wishes of her pious father and grandfather tended to restrain her from an indulgence in its vanities; and the merciful visitations of Divine grace being extended to her in very early life, she was enabled in good measure, to turn from its fascinations, and to yield herself meekly and humbly unto Christ; being brought to view the pleasures of time as unworthy of her pursuit, and inconsistent with His precepts and example; realizing the truth of the Apostle's declaration, "the friendship of the world is enmity with God."

Many were the conflicts and baptisms witnessed by our beloved friend thus early in life, in order that she might be purified and prepared for that station in the Church to which she was called by the holy Head. We believe that her first public appearance in the ministry was at a small meeting at Seabrook in the State of New Hampshire, when she was about twenty-two years of age, uttering the words of our adorable Saviour: "Blessed

are the pure in heart, for they shall see God." It was probably in reference to this important event in her life, that she wrote, soon after her return home, under date of eleventh month, twelfth, 1812, as follows: "I have oftimes cast my thoughts back upon you, since my visit at Tottrick; and may perhaps consider it the best part of my life from that time to the present. I had at that season, and have had at some transitory ones since, to rejoice in the Lord and joy in the God of my salvation, who is indeed ready to pardon the contrite in heart for omissions, when caused by a fearful hesitancy, yea, even unfaithfulness, when it originates from a fear of doing harm. He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness. * * * Let the soul of thy heart be entirely submitted to the operations of the great, the holy Husbandman; permit it to be exhausted according to His pleasure; though he may sit as a refiner with fire, and as a fuller with soap, yet nevertheless, my beloved, shrink not at the effects; for though He cometh with the fan in his hand, thoroughly to purge the floor, to burn up the chaff with fire unquenchable, but the wheat he will gather into his garner; and if we can be made pure, fit vessels for His divine service, it is immaterial to us what prepares us, or it ought to be so, if done by Him. May we become obedient children, willing to be taught of the Lord. His grace we shall find to be sufficient for us.

"May you my dear and young friends individually choose the Lord for your portion and the God of Jacob for the lot of your inheritance. He will be your guide, your preserver, through every vicissitude of life. By attending to the inspiring word of His truth, which is near you, even in your hearts, and as a law written in your minds you will be qualified to serve Him in the manner of your days. You will be sweet solace to your excellent parents holding up their feeble hands, and supporting their declining years; causing joy to spring in their devoted hearts, thanksgiving and praise to our Heavenly Father on your accounts."

Under date of eleventh month, twenty-seventh 1812, she writes: "The language of encouragement fell accompanied my better feelings when turned towards thee. This expression has arisen since thus silently conversing: 'Fear not; greater is He that is in thee than he that is in the world.' Be of good cheer; look up to our Heavenly Father for protection and support. Desire of Him oftener than the morning, strength and ability to do whatever he may please to appoint for thy portion to perform in this militant state: and consider nothing too small, no service too trivial, if it contributes towards the great work. May our love for Him, and His beloved Son, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, individually increase. May we crave an addition through each returning day, and at the evening's close commit our spirits to His care; endeavouring so to live, that whether the succeeding dawn returneth for us, yea or nay, all will be well."

The sixteenth of twelfth month of the same year she thus writes: "I think much of you at ——, particularly those who seem inclined to submit to the precious

yoke of Christ. The aspirations of my spirit arise for your prosperity in the path of dedication and humility. May you proceed and cull as you go the sweetest of flowers, enjoying the perfume exhaled from the Rose of the Lord, the garden enclosed of our God. Though my much beloved friend must continue to feel solitary and oppressed, yea, must be led where briars and thorns perplex the way, yet remember that you are not alone, but have many companions. She who is now wielding your pen, is acquainted with sensations like these. When the heavens to us often seem as brass, and the earth clad in iron and no temporal consolation near. Yet let us trust in the Lord, for in His arms there is strength. The mountains shall depart and the hills be removed, but His kindness will never be withdrawn from those who love Him, who endeavour to serve Him. "O thou afflicted, tossed with tempest, and not comforted behold, I will lay thy stones with fair colour, thy foundations with sapphires, and I will make thy windows of agates, thy gates of carbuncles, and all thy borders of pleasant stones." Let us take courage, and do our work in the day time."

Again the eighth month, twenty-seventh, 1812, she writes: "Though the world may appear to have enclosed us by impending clouds, and agitated as it were by tumultuous blasts from the north yet be not dismayed, be not discomfitted. It is all in wisdom, infinite wisdom, that shadows and gloom should at times envelop the sphere, and even eclipse the benignant, soul-enlivening rays of the Sun of Righteousness; yea, should the life-inspiring smiles of our beloved be withdrawn, then, O then, how necessary to invoke patience and faith to our aid; when, of pestilence or death seems suspended over us by an attenuated thread, we can with confidential calmness and Christian hope, wait in stillness for the dawning of a brighter day, when the stars sing together, and the children of God our Father shout for joy. Our tongue Lord very emphatically proclaimed the efficacy of faith; and patience seems also essential in our progress towards the land of promise. How they be unwillingly resisted to by us: may we not admit doubts, discouragements, and fears to pervade our minds; they perplex bewilder and enervate. Let us be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might, possessing our souls in patience, endeavoring to cultivate a disposition to suffer with cheerfulness; for if we expect to reign with our Redeemer we must be baptized with His baptisms, and drink of the cup which he drank; then shall we rise into newness of life, and experience all old things done away before we behold all things to become new and all of God."

First month seventh, 1813, she writes: "My sisterly sympathy is grateful to thy mind, who feels like a solitary wanderer in a desert land. *** But O, my love, how pleasant is this path, even though it be through the wilderness. How we sometimes meet with broad delightful rivers, where no gallant ship hath passed nor galley with oars, from which we are favored to view, in prospective, the haven of rest the port of peace. Let us pursue with diligence, keeping our eye single: then can we discover our Heavenly Leader, whose going forth is as the

morning, and his return as the former and the latter rain."

Third month, ninth, 1813: "We never experience moments of more calm unalloyed delight, or participate more sensibly in a foretaste of heavenly joys than after conflicting scenes when the spirit is ready to cry out, 'my way is hid from the Lord and my judgment is passed over from my God!' provided we can be favored to dwell in patience, and maintain that confidence which is an indispensable requisite in the Christian character. I am renewedly confirmed in the belief, that all things work together for good to them who love the Lord."

Eighth month, twenty-third, 1813: "The nearer we live in conformity to the dictates of the guide within, the more freely will His sustaining light and life circulate within our borders, and replenish our oftimes exhausted spirits calling for grateful acknowledgments therefrom and obtain acceptance by Him who anointeth our heads with oil, and causeth our cup to run over. We thus become partakers of that food that satisfies, that gives strength to go forth to the battle, even against the mighty. 'Be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might; gird up the loins of thy mind, and have confidence in the all-sufficiency of His outstretched arm which will make way for the faithful, where there appears none prepared, and lead the blind in a path they know not of."

Under date of first month, first, 1814, she thus writes: "Though occasional depressions seem inseparable from the mind engaged in the noblest of warfares, yet experience, I believe, will confirm us, that equanimity is much to be desired, and amply repays for striving therefor, even until the day breaketh. There is a pleasing attraction accompanying a cheerful serenity inspired by the operation of the invisible Power, the alone supreme, who governs and guides his children, that the beholder observes, the worldling approves, and the uninstructed would willingly imitate. It annihilates the idea that is cherished in the untaught mind and too tenaciously adhered to by the credulous among mankind, that the followers of the Lamb are enveloped in gloom, no rational enjoyment allowed them; and the path they must pursue circumscribed within so narrow a compass, that satisfaction and they cannot walk side by side. Is it not desirable that these prejudices be removed; that the Christian graces conferred on her votaries should shine forth with their benignant lustre, diffusing their complacent meekness and ease, which faithfulness to the dictates of the Master alone inspires. With this disposition an humble acquiescence is wrought, and every crown of nature falls submissive at His feet. We bend with resignation to the yoke, and the inscription of the cross is our most conspicuous ornament."

Having made full proof of her ministry, her gift was acknowledged by Friends in the year 1816.

About this time her father removed to Cranston, a few miles from Providence. For several years she continued to reside in this quiet country retreat with her father, richly enjoying its seclusion and exemption from the interruptions incident to a residence in the city. Here she had opportunity for that retirement,

that meditation and private devotion which she highly prized; the effects of which were strikingly manifest in the gentleness of her manners, and in a calm benignity in her intercourse with others, that were peculiarly characteristic of her through life.

Possessed of ample pecuniary means, she counted it her privilege to do good, and to administer to the necessities of the poor and the distressed. The cause which she knew not she searched out; and those that asked aid of her, went not empty away. She instituted, and for many years supported at her own expense, a school for the instruction of colored children in Providence, and subsequently was chiefly instrumental in establishing a "Shelter" for destitute orphans of this class, to which she freely contributed of her means, where a large number, taken from abject destitution, are now enjoying a comfortable home, and receiving an education to fit them for usefulness in life. Numerous and varied were her private charities, known only to the recipients and those to whom they gave a knowledge of them; and multiplied and emphatic were the declarations heard from these at her decease, "the poor have lost a friend." These now gratefully revere her memory.

To the sick and the afflicted, she was a welcome visitant; her spirit, clothed with Christian charity, was often qualified to enter into sympathy with them, and to administer counsel and consolation; and her prayers were frequently put up on their behalf.

In the year 1823, she was married to our late valued friend William Jenkins, and returned to reside in her native place.

We come now to speak more particularly of her devotion to the cause of our holy Redeemer and of her singleness in the work to which He was pleased to call her as a Minister of the Gospel. Her gift was exercised in great sweetness and circumspection. She was very conversant with the Holy Scriptures, which she was concerned diligently and carefully to peruse; and was thoroughly grounded and established in the doctrines of our holy religion. She was a firm believer in the efficacy of true prayer, and in much tenderness and deep solemnity was she at times engaged to bow the knee in opportunities for Divine worship; her words being few, and uttered with an evidence of the deep reverence and awe with which she approached the throne of grace on these occasions. In her ministry, she was acceptable and edifying, her manner being peculiarly persuasive, and the unction which attended, giving great weight and solemnity to her offerings. She was a thorough practical believer in the correctness of the views of our religious Society as to the nature of true worship; and the weightiness of her spirit in our meetings, when there were no vocal offerings, was sensibly felt by those who were gathered under the same baptizing power.

In her religious engagements, she was deeply concerned to move only as she was immediately guided and qualified by the alone Shepherd, who putteth forth his own and goeth before them; being very careful to take no step in her own strength

and will, but trusting in and depending upon Him whom she loved, and was engaged above all things beside to serve.

In the year 1817, not long after her gift had been acknowledged by Friends, she received their full unity and concurrence to visit the meetings constituting several of the Quarterly Meetings within our Yearly Meeting, and truly acceptable did this service prove to those whom she visited; many seals of her ministry being left behind, as well as much evidence of the salutary effects of her humble and devoted walk; her example of simplicity and meek dedication to the cause in which she was engaged, being very instructive. And we may here record, as evincing her humility and love of the simplicity of truth, that, in still earlier life, on returning from a religious visit with her honored father, she remarked to him that one thing she had coveted for herself above all others that had come under her observation during this journey, — that she might be possessed of the simplicity of a dear friend, whom she named, who was remarkable for his modest humility. She was frequently engaged, during the whole of her subsequent life, in visiting various parts of our land on religious service, always with the full unity of Friends, and to the comfort and edification of those among whom she travelled.

In the third month 1842 she embarked for England, with the unity of the Church, to attend the Yearly Meeting of London, to visit in Gospel love, such of the meetings within its limits as way might open for, together with some of the meetings of Friends in Ireland. After spending a few months in this engagement, she felt released from further service in that land at that time, and returned in safety to her home. In a letter to two beloved friends in England, soon after her return, she thus expresses herself: "I think I have received from time to time, both on the passage and since my return, sufficient evidence of my coming being in the right time. The everlasting wing of Ancient Goodness has been and continues to be mercifully extended over me and under its shadow my soul takes delight. In looking back upon you, my dear friends, and many others may be added to the number, my heart is enlarged and warmed by the influence of that love which desires your preservation and advancement in the unchangeable truth, wherein there is no mixture, but where there are witnessed sweetness, harmony and peace."

The following year she believed it required of her again to resign herself to visit, in Gospel love, Friends and others in Great Britain and Ireland, and also to visit some places on the continent of Europe. Her feelings, in prospect of this engagement are thus set forth in a letter to the same valued friends: "It was truly cordial to me to find that you would be willing again to receive a solitary wanderer, who will come to your land, not at her own bidding, but drawn thither by those cords which, if resisted, the mind sinks back upon itself, and is left in its own painful void. Deep baptisms have been my portion in this renewed tour of faith; but for ever blessed be the adorable name of the

author and finisher of this inestimable gift, his sustaining and life-giving presence has not been withheld, and in the hour of need, fresh evidences have been received that He continues mighty to save. There have been some religious engagements resting upon me to perform, which have intercepted, in some measure, a clear view of the time for me to embark for your shores. They are now accomplished, greatly to the comfort and peace of my own mind; and it looks at present very much like my leaving all behind me, and taking passage in the same ship which conveyed me to your land in 1842. May every step that I take be under the guidance of Him who seeth about and inwards; who knows the end from the beginning, and will keep that which is committed to His care."

It appears by testimonials borne by the two months' meeting of Congenies, in the south of France, that she visited all the little meetings constituting it except two, whose members she saw in another place; that she also visited some families, and in some places had meetings with those who were not in profession with Friends, which were very satisfactory. It is stated in these documents that, on many occasions she was enabled to turn the attention of her hearers to the internal revelation of that light which is Christ, and through which we come to God." The recollection of her "fervent supplications" is feelingly adverted to; and it is declared that "she had left an affectionate remembrance in the hearts of many. On this journey in the continent she was accompanied by our beloved friends William Forster and Mary Forster. She thus writes at Nismes, in France, under date of second month twenty-eighth 1844: "I am returning with a relieved mind, and with the sweet fruit of peace. Great has been the condescending goodness of Him, whom I desire, unworthy as I feel myself to be, to serve in all the ways of His requirings. He truly is a merciful high priest, the keeper of His children, and the guide of His little ones. He has sustained me when no human arm could support. He has preserved me through the coldness of the winter, and protected me in exposures unknown by me before. It is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in my eyes. Let us praise Him for His goodness, and through the aid of His grace, dwell under the influence of His Holy Spirit." And in prospect of returning home, she says: "I can now say that I have been mercifully helped to accomplish all that was before me and feel not the weight of a feather upon my spirit as it regards any thing further to be done in this country and my way is clear towards my native land. What a mercy! 'Return unto thy rest, O my soul for the Lord hath dealt bountifully with thee.'" She soon after embarked for home, where she arrived safely in the seventh month, 1844.

In reference to her visit in Europe, she thus addresses a valued correspondent there: "A full release is granted me from your land, and my mind is in the enjoyment of sweet, enriching peace. It is my privilege to feel that my work is done as it is the present time. I can look forward with confidence and joy and retrospection affords me comfort. What more can I desire? Not unto me, not unto me, but unto Thy name, give glory; for that Thy name is near, Thy wondrous

works declare!' May the light of life divine illuminate our paths, shining upon them more and more unto the perfect day." And again: "My mind continues to rest in peaceful quiet, and to retrospect upon the time passed in a distant land with great satisfaction. I cannot readily describe the feeling of release and repose that at seasons I am favored to enjoy. Great is the loving kindness of the Lord: He keeps in perfect peace the mind that is stayed on Him. Of this, I can abundantly testify. Surely goodness and mercy have followed my steps, all unworthy as I am. But after we have done all that it is our duty to do we are truly but unprofitable servants."

Several times during the three succeeding years she was liberated by Friends to travel in the work of the ministry within our own and neighboring Yearly Meetings, and was favored on her return to be able to declare to the Monthly Meeting, that she had been enabled to attend to these religious engagements to the relief and peace of her mind.

In the third month, 1846, our dear friend was subjected to a severe trial by the removal from works to rewards, of her beloved husband. Near the time of his decease, she thus expresses her feelings to a distant friend: "It is only to those who are connected with me by the close-woven feelings of Christian interest and regard, that I could communicate at a time like the present. *** His indisposition now assumes a more decidedly threatening appearance, and the probability is that he will sink under it. But the hand of mercy is evidently near gently loosening the silver cord, and inclining him downwards into the valley through which I unhesitatingly believe he will be conducted to a mansion of everlasting rest. *** 'The Lord is my rock and my fortress.' Think of my children, and pray for us unitedly. Farewell in the love of the Ancient of Days. Farewell in the unchangeable truth as it is in Jesus, our crucified and our glorified Lord."

Under date of fourth month, twenty-seventh, 1846, she writes as follows: "The sweet current of Gospel love is not obstructed in its course by adverse circumstances, but rather derives strength and diffuses its enriching effects over that apparent waste of feeling which often succeeds those bereavements which bring the mind into a state of destitution wherein all seems like a desolate void. But, my dear friend, I have great cause to commemorate the loving kindness of Him who said to his disciples, 'Lo! I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world.' He has been my stay and my staff, my light and my preserver. In Him alone do I desire to trust, and to commit my all into his holy keeping. *** I feel it to be my allotment and my privilege to keep very much in the tent."

On the completion of a religious visit in the twelfth month, 1846, she again thus addresses the same friend: "Thy truly acceptable letter awaited my return from a religious engagement, upon which I had entered with my usual feelings of weakness and with fear. But by proceeding in it, step by step, it was evident, as in former times, that help is laid upon one who is mighty, and who condescends to go before and to make a way for his depending and humble children. I yesterday completed the

service which has occupied me several weeks, having visited the families in our own meeting, and attended a number of meetings in a distant Quarterly Meeting. * * * I have now most peacefully concluded the engagement, and it is with confirmed faith and gratitude of heart that I look back upon the time thus devoted, and the feeling prevails, "What shall I render unto the Lord for all his benefits?" * * Thou mayst contemplate me in the enjoyment of all that heart ought to wish for, and that too which crowns every other earthly blessing, a peaceful mind.

"Give what Thou wilt, without Thee we are poor;
And with Thee rich, take what Thou wilt away."

In the fourth month, 1848, she spread before our Meeting a religious concern again to cross the Atlantic to visit some of the Meetings of Friends in Great Britain, and to attend to such other religious engagements as might be required of her, which received the full unity of Friends.

In prospect of this visit, she thus, in the seventh month, addresses a transatlantic friend: "At the present time my mind seems to be at rest in a quiet dwelling-place. How long this privilege is to be continued, I do not see. Indeed, any allotment appointed by Him who alone can confer peace may be felt to be a privilege. How gentle and compassionate are the leadings of Him who knows our frame, who took upon him the form of a servant and who knows what is best for us. * * * How uncertain is every thing appertaining to this life! I feel renewedly the excellency of having our days work going on with the day. Then how clear and undeceivingly does the light shine upon our path, and we know indeed that we do not walk in darkness but we have the light of life, and this is a lamp to our feet. * * * Thy letter, previous to your Yearly Meeting was truly interesting and acceptable to me. I believe it had a tendency to strengthen me to yield myself up to the disposal of Him who requires nothing of his children but what He enables them to perform; though when I look forward, I am at times overwhelmed with fear and dismay. But, ah! this consoling promise — it is now brought strikingly before me — "Fear not, for I am with thee; be not dismayed, for I am thy God."

On this third visit to England, the feeling of responsibility devolving upon her as a parent induced her, with the approbation of her friends, to take her children with her, and locating them at Brighton, she attended from time to time to such religious service as she felt to be required of her; and although this was not extensive we have cause to believe her gift was exercised to the satisfaction of Friends, they testifying by certificate on her behalf that "her Gospel labours had been acceptable and edifying to Friends in those parts of the nation in which her lot had been cast;" that they "believe that in much simplicity and watchfulness, and in humble dependence on the renewed putting forth of the Divine Master, she had endeavored to perform the service which had been required at her hands."

On the first of ninth month, 1849, with her family, she embarked for America, where she arrived safely on the twelfth, and felt great thankfulness in being again

permitted to return, with a peaceful mind, to her native land. The following extract from a letter, written soon after, to valued friends in England, who were with her at her embarkation is indicative of the state of her mind: "I now address you from my native shores, with feelings of the same interest and affection as when sharing your hospitality, and enjoying your valued society. *** I feel like resuming the pen again, to reiterate the response which my feelings continually bear witness to of pleasant and cordial recollections of you, my dear and valued friends. As you receded from my view, on the first of the present month, so are your images impressed upon my mind, and whether we ever again meet on this beautiful earth, is altogether hid from our frail capacities to discern. As it regards my own poor self, I feel increasingly every day, the desirableness of a release from a tenement of clay; and laying hold of the hope set before us, to be transformed by the renewal of His Spirit; to be clothed upon with the righteousness of Christ, and through His precious blood to be admitted through Him, the door, into that heavenly fold where, with the adorable Shepherd and Bishop of Souls, an unbroken rest may be enjoyed. But Oh! how many may be the conflicts preparatory to this. It is the prayer of my heart, that the blessed Saviour may be my all in all; that His government may be established, and that praise and thanksgiving may be the clothing of my Spirit."

It was remarkably opened to our beloved friend, that her day's work was nearly accomplished, and she was diligent in doing every thing that she desired should be done, in the arrangement of her temporal affairs. On her passage across the Atlantic she expressed to an intimate friend her full belief that her ministerial labors were nearly closed, and that her journey of life was near to its end, although then in the enjoyment of her usual health; and this was an abiding conviction with her and was again and again repeated after her arrival home. She was constantly at our meetings, but her allotment was to wait in them in deep reverential silence before the Lord. Once only did she appear in testimony, and that was on first day, the week before her decease, in a solemn message, referring to the passage through the valley of the shadow of death, and sweetly dwelling upon the support then to be vouchsafed by the followers of Jesus from his immediate presence.

On first day preceding her close, she attended meeting at Cranston, and appeared in the ministry with great solemnity, and very acceptably to Friends.

On second day evening, the nineteenth of eleventh month, two ministering Friends, engaged in visiting the families of this Monthly Meeting, made a religious visit to the family of our dear friend; and on their returning to their lodgings in the evening, after this visit was accomplished, they expressed fully their satisfaction with it, and dwelt upon the sweetness and humility with which her spirit was clothed, and which to them had been comforting and edifying.

The family retired to rest at their usual hour, and by three o'clock in the morning, their house was found to be enveloped in flames, and our beloved friend we reverently believe, although suddenly removed from this state of trial and

conflict was surely admitted to the presence of Him who declared to his followers, "I go to prepare a place for you, that where I am, there ye may be also."

Signed on behalf and by direction of Providence Monthly Meeting of Friends, held fourth month twenty fourth, 1850.

Gilbert Congdon,
Anna T. Dennis, } Clerks.

At Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting of Friends, held at East Greenwich, fifth month second, 1850 a testimony from Providence Monthly Meeting concerning our deceased friend Anna C. Hoskins, deceased, was received at this time, and being read and approved, the Clerks were directed to transmit the same to our Meeting for Sufferings.

Gilbert Congdon,
Sarah H. Tobey, } Clerks.

Testimony of China Monthly Meeting of Friends concerning Martha J. Hodges, deceased

It hath pleased Him, who seeth the end from the beginning, and who doeth all things well, in the inscrutable counsel of His own will, to remove from the militant Church our dearly beloved friend and faithful labourer in the gospel, Martha J. Hodges in the meridian of life and strength of her days. Her memory is precious to us; and believing that some account of her early days and the devotedness of her after life, would be a satisfaction to others, and an encouragement to seek the way of the Lord, we have felt concerned to issue the following brief memorial respecting her; not with any wish to eulogize dead, but with a single eye to the exaltation of that grace, which as she became obedient thereunto, effectually wrought a change in her heart, and instead of dead works, enabled her to serve the living God and follow His requirings with devotedness of heart.

Martha J. Hodges was born in the town of Leeds, in the (then) District of Maine, the 21st. day of the 6th month 1811. Her parents, Nathaniel and Phebe Owen, were members of our religious Society, concerned to train their children in the paths of virtue. It is believed that the tender counsel of her pious mother, left a lasting impression for good on her mind; and it appears, that while very young, her heart was often tendered by the power of Divine Grace, and brought to see something of the beauty of holiness and the necessity of a life of self denial; but as she advanced in years, she gave way to a naturally strong propensity to participate in the fashions and amusements of the world, and turned a deaf ear to the reproofs of instruction - which is the way to life: feeling (as she has many times been heard to say) a very strong aversion to that plainness in dress and simplicity of manners which Friends have ever felt bound to maintain. She was permitted to go from step to step in self-pleasing gratifications, until she lost her right of membership with Friends. But He, whose mercies are over all His works, did not forsake her in this situation. The swift witness against sin and transgression still followed, wooing and inviting her to turn from the vanity of her ways and lead a self-denying life. The servants of the Lord were commissioned, at times, to declare unto her the way of life and salvation with such power and clearness, as to make a lasting impression upon her mind. Many were the conflicts she endured. While she ardently desired to be a partaker of that Rest prepared for the people of God - the cross was presented with all its humiliations and privations. Thus deeply tried she resolved to become a more decided Christian, and soon after made a public profession among the Methodists. We believe and can testify that our dear departed friend was sound in her christian views on the subject of prayer, and felt the importance and duty acknowledged

the binding force of those Scriptural injunctions which teach the necessity of watchfulness unto prayer, was concerned never to open her lips in the vocal exercise of prayer or praise without a fresh anointing of the Spirit which helpeth our infirmities, well knowing that we know not what to pray for as we ought, without this blessed help. The following incident given in her own words will exemplify these truly Christian views

About the time of her joining in profession with the Methodists above alluded to, she was engaged as a teacher in a primary School. "The agent of the School [said she] informed me that, as I had "experienced religion", it was expected that I should vocally pray in the School. Being desirous to please it brought a great trial upon me. When I returned to the School and had gathered the children around me, having read a portion of Scripture, I knelt and attempted to pray; but it seemed as though my mouth was stopped. I could scarcely utter a word. From that time I learned never to attempt to pray to please man."

Soon after this, in 1833, she was married to William Hodges a member of the Methodist Society. For a few years succeeding, their residence was remote from Friends. On one occasion the subject of this memoir accepted an invitation from her husband to attend a meeting of Friends at China, a distance of 14 miles. Two Friends in the ministry, from another meeting, were drawn to attend, and in their labors of love in the meeting, were qualified to speak to the states of these young persons, with such clearness and baptizing power, that they were melted into tenderness of spirit before the Lord. It proved a season of renewed favor to both of them. On their return home, Martha remarked to her husband, that she believed the servants of the Lord had a message for them that day." From this time their minds were more fully drawn to embrace the Truth as professed by Friends.

Her husband first became a member of our Society, and she soon after in 1837. She first appeared in the ministry in 1840, and from her own account it appears that her mind had been long impressed with a belief, that if she yielded obedience to the requirings of truth, she would have to bear a public testimony to the efficacy of Divine Grace which she had measurably experienced. But having been from early life, much averse to female preaching, and feeling the cross to be very important and weighty, she shrank for a time from it, and was brought into great stripedness and abasedness of self. She had to pass through many deep and proving seasons, before she gave up fully to resign her own will to that of her Divine Master. One instance of this kind, we think worthy of notice, several Friends having heard her relate it nearly in these words "As I was sitting in a religious meeting under deep mental exercise, a subject was presented to my mind with great clearness, and the requirement to express it was undoubted. But I gave way to reasoning until I came to this conclusion, I cannot and I will not. Almost immediately a language seemed to be uttered

as clear to my understanding as the sound of a voice to the outward ear – Set thine house in order, for thou shalt die and not live" Soon after she was taken sick and when to all appearances, near the close of life, under great mental suffering and anguish of Spirit, she was mercifully strengthened to petition that her day of probation might be lengthened, covenanting that if the Lord would spare her life, she would be more faithful. He, whose compassionate ear is ever open to the prayer of the penitent, did graciously answer her petition and raised her up. In a short time she was able to attend meetings and having, in some degree, gained obedience from the things she suffered, occasionally expressed a few words in public to the relief of her own mind. Being careful and watchful, she experienced a growth in Grace and an increase in her gift; which she was favored, as we believe, to exercise to the honor of the Giver, and in the unity of Friends.

She was acknowledged as a Minister in the 1st mo. 1844. In the following Summer she performed her first visit, in that capacity, out of the limits of our Quarterly Meeting, and much to the relief of her mind. In the Summer of 1846, she visited within the limits of Dover, Salem and Sandwich Quarterly Meetings, and in the Autumn succeeding, engaged in an extensive field of labor in the Provinces of New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia. In 1849 She attended Ohio Yearly Meeting, and on her return visited the cities of Philadelphia and Burlington, and was engaged for sometime within the limits of New York Yearly Meeting, which she also attended in the Spring of 1848. In the Summer of 1849 she had an extensive service within the limits of our own Yearly Meeting, on her return producing, as on all former occasions, minutes from the different Meetings of Friends, expressive of their unity with her company and gospel labours among them. Her labors in the love of the gospel were not confined to our own religious Society; her love seemed to extend to the whole human family, inclining her at times to visit the inmates of the Almshouse, the Prison, the Penitentiary, and like places of poverty, wretchedness and crime. Often was she strengthened there to open the mysteries of divine things with great clearness. In the exercise of her gift she was frequently engaged in visiting the families of Friends and oft imparted a word of counsel and encouragement to individuals. While thus highly favored, she was careful to ascribe all the praise and glory to Him who required the service at her hands and enabled her to perform it; feeling herself but a feeble instrument, entirely unworthy the many favors bestowed upon her.

This dear friend was of an affectionate disposition, warmly attached to her family and friends, an interesting companion in the social circle, and an active and useful member of Society. Her public communications were sound in doctrine, in language clear and persuasive. Her ministry was powerful and baptizing, often reaching the witness of God in the heart, frequently expressing her unshaken faith in the divinity of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ – in His holy life in that prepared body – in His

meritorious sufferings and death upon the Cross, as a propitiatory Sacrifice for the sins of the whole world – in His resurrection, ascension and mediation at the right hand of the Father.

Our dear departed friend had long believed, that she should be early called to render an account of her stewardship; and after returning from her visit in 1849, was given to feel that the time of her release had nearly come, expressing herself to an intimate friend, as seeing nothing more in prospect for her to do, and as feeling an humble trust in the mercies of her Redeemer. She continued to pass the time in a weighty frame of spirit, often expressing her resignation to the Divine will and diligently attending meetings when health would permit. In her last illness, which was short, her Heavenly Father saw meet to save her the bitter pang of knowing that the time of her separation had fully come. Near her close she remarked that she felt herself to be an unprofitable servant, though always endeavoring to serve the dear Master with a willing mind and a heart devoted to his cause, yet she felt an humble trust that her transgressions and omissions were all forgiven. She passed quietly away the 12th of the 5th month 1850 in the 39th year of her age, and is we humbly believe peacefully gathered to her fathers. Her remains were interred in Friends' burying ground, and a large and solemn Meeting held on the occasion.

The foregoing Memorial concerning our beloved friend Matthew J. Hodges was read and considered – men and women Friends collectively convened – and being satisfactory was approved and directed to be forwarded to the Quarterly Meeting.

Signed by direction of China M° Meeting held 13th of 5th mo. 1857

Eli Jones
Mary C. Jones } Clerks

The foregoing Memorial was read in this Meeting and being approved was directed to be signed by the Clerks and forwarded to the Meeting for Sufferings –

From the Minutes of the Vassalboro Quarterly Meeting of Friends held 5th mo. 30th 1857

Joseph H. Cole
Ann Elmira Lang } Clerks.

Testimony of Uxbridge Monthly Meeting, concerning our esteemed friend Loyal Southwick, deceased.

Believing that the memory of the just is blessed, and that the example of those who through submission to the teaching of the Holy Spirit have been enabled to fight the good fight, to keep the faith, and finish their course with joy tends to animate survivors to follow them as they followed Christ; and as this our beloved friend is removed as we believe from the church militant to the church triumphant, we feel it to be right to bear the following testimony concerning him.

He was born in Uxbridge Mass. on the 10th of Twelfth Month 1760. His parents Lawrence and Hannah Southwick were members of the Society of Friends and by them was religiously educated in the doctrines of the Gospel as professed by us. He was an amiable and exemplary young man, and beloved and respected by the circle of his acquaintances. About the 25th year of his age while travelling in the eastern part of our Yearly Meeting with two women friends, whom he attended as companion, he submitted to take up the cross, and bear his first public testimony in the Redeemer's cause; for the fulfilment of which duty he experienced the reward of peace as he often acknowledged in after life. In the 28th year of his age he was united in marriage with Phebe Farnum, a member of Uxbridge Monthly Meeting, with whom he passed the remainder of his life, faithfully fulfilling his duties as an affectionate husband, a tender father, and a kind and obliging neighbor.

For several years after his first appearance in the ministry his communications were short, and not very frequent; but being accompanied by that life which is edifying to the church, they were acceptable to Friends, and his ministry was approved by the Monthly and Quarterly Meetings in the year 1798. As he advanced in life, he became enlarged in the openings of the Gospel, and was enabled to bring forth fruit to the comfort and encouragement of Friends, and became to many as a father and a helper in their Christian course.

He was constant in the attendance of our religious meetings both for worship and discipline, often bearing public testimony therein, warning the careless and unthoughtful to improve their time; inviting, persuading and entreating all to seek an interest in Christ; pleading with more than a brother's love, or a father's anxious care for all to "come, taste and see that the Lord is good" — that they might know of building on the immutable Rock of Ages, and be permitted in the end, to receive the crown which fadeth not away. In one of his public communications after speaking of the unbounded love and mercy of God, and of His goodness and loving kindness to the children of men, he said, "O let neither principalities nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, ever be able to separate me from the Love of God. O let all the earth praise Him, for his praise, proceeding from the heart which is filled with His

Love is the highest anthem ever sung by man on the earth, or by the angels that surround the throne of God."

His christian character was peculiarly marked by a child-like simplicity, an unshaken faith, and a great love of the Holy Scriptures which he read much, especially during the latter part of his life; a concern from which even the most pressing secular duties were never allowed to turn him aside!

In the year 1813 he visited most of the meetings within the limits of Farmington Quarterly Meeting, State of New York, and quite a number of other meetings in that vicinity. He also made several religious visits to Friends and others in different parts of our Yearly Meeting and twice paid a visit in gospel love to the convicts in the Massachusetts State Prison: all of which service he was enabled to perform to the satisfaction of his friends, and eventually to the peace of his own mind. He attended our Yearly Meeting in the Sixth month 1840; and although he was at that time in feeble health, he had great enjoyment in the meeting and much satisfaction in the society of his friends. From that time his health gradually declined, but he was preserved in a peaceful, quiet frame of mind, resigned to the Divine will: and often, in his conversation with his family, gave satisfactory evidence, that nothing had been able to separate him from the love of God; although as he expressed at one time, he had many trying baptisms to pass through; and at the commencement of his illness, he had renewedly to experience the truth of the doctrine he had so often publickly declared, that the life of a Christian is one of continued warfare. For several days he appeared to be under a deep exercise of mind, and conversed but little; when after a considerable time of silence, he said, "How peaceful is now here; of late the enemy has been striving to make me believe that the day of grace for me was over; but the Lord has mercifully delivered me from this state. O, it is through the grace of God, that I am what I am. Of myself, I can do nothing. Christ has wrought the work in me."

After this period, our beloved friend was permitted, through the course of his sickness, to partake largely of the sustaining comforts of the Gospel; and very often, under a humbling sense of the unworthiness of the creature, and of the love and mercy of the Creator, his heart was contrited, and all within him seemed absorbed in gratitude and love.

The following were some of his expressions in the early part of his illness. "It is a solemn thing to die even when we are prepared. I have for many years desired to live until I could die in peace: and now I feel that although the company of my friends is very dear to me, the love of Christ is far more precious. God is good to all. He fills the heart with his love, and makes it a temple for Him to dwell in." His love for his friends was very great: often repeating the Scripture testimony, "Iron sharpeneth iron, so doth a man the countenance of his friend," and expressing his feelings in regard to the transitory things of earth, as being nothing, in his view, compared to an interest in Christ.

The day before his death, after all supposed he was so weak as not to be able to speak again, his voice grew stronger, and he was enabled to bear his final and remarkable solemn testimony to the truth as it is in Jesus. Among many other expressions, were the following: "Praise the Lord, all the earth. My dear friends adore him. I entreat you to seek God. seek Christ. O, the unspeakable joy of Christ's salvation. I remember the mercy of the Lord. I ascribe nothing to myself. There have been many imperfections in my life; - but from my youth, I have had the fear of God before my eyes, and have endeavoured to serve him. O, how little my sufferings are, compared with my Saviour's, who died upon the cross. O live in love, my brethren, and the God of Love will be with you. We were made to serve him and be happy. The world knoweth not of my peace and joy - the love of Christ, & saints, and of angels. O, my dear friends, will you fear the Lord, who giveth wisdom? Who can be careless! What could all the world do for me now, if I had not an interest in Christ? I feel to say with the Apostle, I have fought the good fight, I have kept the faith, henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of life, which the Righteous Judge shall give me" - and looking earnestly around, he added, and not to me only, but to all men who love his appearing. O, keep a near walk with God. Seek first the Kingdom of God, and all other things shall be added. No man can redeem his brother, or give to God a ransom for him: it must be the work of God in the Soul. Religion doth not hurt the man or business - remember this"

In the evening he appeared to be engaged in prayer, but only a few sentences could be heard. Expressions of praise were distinctly articulated, and he was heard to say, "It is a valley," and then added "Lord be with me through the valley & the shadow of death, and no evil shall befall me" His last words, that were heard were "Dearest Father", and on the morning of the 30th of 11th month 1840, it pleased the All-wise Disposer of events to release without a sigh or a groan, this humble follower of the Lamb, to whom this language may truly be applied. "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God."

His funeral was attended at Friends' Meeting House in Uxbridge the 2d of 12th month, by a large company of Friends and others, who assembled to pay the last tribute due to departed worth; and the overshadowing of divine love was extended to the comfort of many on this solemn occasion

Signed by direction and on behalf of Uxbridge Monthly Meeting held 1st mo. 31. 1851

Edward Earle, Clerk,
Ann H. Colton, Clerk.

At Smithfield Quarterly Meeting of Friends held at Smithfield the 8th of the 5th month 1851 –

The foregoing Memorial in behalf of our beloved friend Royal Southwick, deceased, coming under consideration, was approved, and directed to be forwarded to the Meeting for Sufferings

By direction of the Meeting

Thos. Milton Earle, Clerk.
Ann B. Earle, Clerk.

A Testimony of Salem Monthly Meeting of Friends respecting Sophronia Page, deceased.

Whereas in the counsel of Him, in whose are the issues of life and of death, He saith meet to remove from the militant church those who by his grace through repentance towards God, and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, have experienced their sins blotted out, and their robes washed and made white in the blood of the Lamb; it is meet that a testimony of their lives should be preserved to the praise of him, through whom alone, they are what they were. Our beloved friend Sophronia Page the wife of Enoch Page of Danvers near Salem Massachusetts, a member of this Monthly Meeting, having calmly departed out of this life, in great peace and heavenly composure, we think it right to record respecting her as follows: She was the eldest of three children of Simon and Nancy Foster, and was born at Gilmington, New Hampshire, the residence of her parents, on the seventh of the seventh month 1795. Her father was a physician and in practice of medicine, and with his wife the mother of Sophronia, was desirous of ranking himself with gay and fashionable society.

In their daughter's early years, she gave evidence of an active and inquiring mind, intelligent, and of quick and discerning powers. Her education, in accordance with the wishes of her parents, was directed to fit her to move in the gay circles of fashionable life, in which it was their ambition to move; and included instruction in music and dancing. Her parental home was in the neighborhood of the Meeting of Friends at Gilmanton, and it is not improbable that she had occasionally attended meeting there during her childhood, and early girlhood. It is remembered that at about the age of fourteen or fifteen years, she was fond of cultivating the acquaintance of some families of Friends, and not unfrequently accompanying them to meeting. Still she moved in the gay circles to which her education and the wishes of her parents had introduced her. And her apparel and deportment was in accordance with the practice of the circle in which she moved. There is reason to believe that in very early life, the Lord in his mercy was pleased to visit her with the touches of his love, and it is remembered respecting her that she would, when attending the public schools, often reprove her schoolmates for not regarding the precepts and example of our Saviour. And when she heard them using profane language, she would mildly say, "Remember Christ said," swear not at all, and as he loved and blessed such as you; remember to love and obey his commands." At such times, when she believed duty called her to offer these reproofs and admonitions, however brief, they were offered in great sincerity and gentleness of Spirit. Thus she passed along until about seventeen years of age, when being employed as a School teacher

in a town away from her home, she lived in a family with a piously devoted Christian woman of the Freewill Baptist Denomination. Here her mind appears to have been awakened to a more keen sense of her lost condition as she stood in an unregenerate state, and strong desires were raised within her, for deliverance therefrom. On her return home, she remained in this seeking state, evidently under the preparing hand of a gracious Savior to witness in his own good time, his appearance as with healing in his wings. Under these exercises of mind she had to witness at times deep baptisms, and to encounter a great fight of afflictions, both from within and without; and to partake in measure of the experience of the Apostle, when at a certain time he said when we came into Macedonia our flesh had no rest, without were fightings, within were fears. The work of regeneration being thus begun, it is instructive to remark, that, among the first convictions of the Spirit of Truth upon her mind, was that of the sinfulness of her attachments to the gaieties and frivolous amusements common to her sex and condition, and she was led to lay aside all about her attire intended to foster pride or ostentation, and to adopt a simple garb. The amusement of dancing, with music, was among the things to which she believed herself called to take up the cross to her natural inclination, and she has been heard to say that when through weakness and the strong temptations laid in her way, both by her parents and her gay associates, she had been induced to engage in this pastime, the strong convictions of an enlightened though offended conscience involved her in great sorrow and grief. Thus she learned by the things that she suffered. Her mother, though naturally possessing an affectionate disposition, was ambitious and fond of gay life. And, although she loved her daughter for her goodness and her filial obedience, yet, she was greatly disappointed in her expectations respecting her, when she saw her inclined to an association with a people with whom she had no sympathy and to imbibe religious views, likely to frustrate all her hopes respecting her daughter's prospects in life. The feelings of disappointment thus engendered, were freely made known to their daughter, both by father and mother, and the trials our dear friend had to endure from the baptisms and wadings of spirit through which lies the pathway to true peace of mind, was added the opposition and neglect, and often remonstrances of those whom she was bound to love as her earthly parents. But, even these trying circumstances, she was mercifully enabled to persevere in the path of duty.

To one ~~possessed~~ of the acute sensibility which our dear friend possessed, these were trials of no common magnitude. Acutely and severely were her faith and confidence tried — but He who is of tender compassion and unfailing goodness, and whose mercies endure forever, was, by his secret

arm of power near to help and sustain her drooping soul. Thus was the experience of the sweet Psalmist of Israel realized by her: "When my father and my mother forsake me, then the Lord will take me up". During all these trials she was preserved in a meek and quiet spirit. She seemed always desirous to conceal the faults of others, and particularly the neglect and want of kindness, and, at times, the harsh treatment towards her, of her parents, which she was ready to forgive, though often obliged to turn aside to hide her tears of grief. So severe were her trials in her parental home, that she was obliged to seek a home elsewhere, and took up her residence in the family of a friend in the neighborhood, where she for sometime resided. The immediate cause of this step appears to have been her faithfulness to apprehended duty in the use of the plain scripture language to her parents, which her father was not disposed to allow. We have reason however thankfully to believe that many years before his decease her father began sincerely to regret his former unkind treatment towards her. She remarked once to a friend, after briefly alluding to her early trials that it was a great satisfaction to her, that her father lived to feel and to express that she had been his true earthly friend. We are also comforted in the belief that her mother lived to regret her early course toward her, and near the close of her life, having experienced largely the filial love and care of her daughter, to be reconciled to her path of life.

From her seventeenth year to her twenty-first, was a time of deep wadings and of mental conflict. Her soul was tossed often as with a tempest and not comforted, but having abode the day of trial until the Lord in his tender mercy saw fit to say it is enough, she was given to experience in good measure, a state of holy settlement in the unchangeable truth, and under the requirements thereof, she sought and obtained a right of membership in our religious society.

She was received a member by Dover Monthly Meeting in the 9th month 1816.

Shortly after her admission to membership with us she felt herself called upon publickly to testify of the grace of God as a minister of the Gospel of Christ. Her appearances in this holy calling were short and pertinent, and very careful was she therein to keep close to her heavenly leader. It is believed that a very close and humiliating trial was permitted her at the time of her early, perhaps her first appearance in the line of the ministry, when at a religious opportunity in the family of her father and mother, she was constrained to open her mouth with that solemn testimony of the Apostle to the Galatians: "Be not deceived; God is not mocked - for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh, shall of the flesh reap corruption - but he that soweth to the Spirit, shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting". When we consider the circumstances under which

she was placed in relation to her family, and their feelings towards her in consequence of her faithfulness to manifested duty, we can but commemorate the goodness and tender compassion of the Lord in strengthening her to perform this humiliating service. We fervently desire that her example in this act of dedication may stimulate all among us, and particularly the young, reverently and firmly, with cheerfulness and alacrity of heart, to make those comparatively small sacrifices which the Lord is calling for at their hands. As she was faithful in the little with which she was intrusted, she experienced a growth in the ministry of the word, and as she was careful to keep her eye single unto Him who had called her to the work, He was graciously pleased from time to time, to direct her steps, and to give her such experience as he saw meet to qualify her for his service. In this work of preparation several years elapsed wherein her mouth was occasionally opened to testify of the manifest grace of God & publickly to approach the throne of grace in prayer and praise. A friend who came into our Society by convincement, about this time thus testified respecting her. "From the knowledge I had of her she most faithfully obeyed the call to take up the cross and bear with all. She was also very helpful to me in my deep trials and heavy crosses I had then to bear, strengthening me by her weighty counsel when present, and by her living epistle when absent; and I can truly say that her labors were not in vain in the Lord. I was present at one time when she was on a visit to a young friend who was sick and thought to be near his end; & at a religious opportunity with him and the other members of the family in which she was much favored, in a living and encouraging testimony, she expressed a belief that he would be raised from that sickness, which proved as she had expressed, much to the joy and comfort of his friends. I think this happened soon after her appearance in the ministry." Our dear friend was concerned carefully to look within her own heart those exercises and conflicts which she apprehended were designed for her own refinement and like Mary of old: "She kept all these things and pondered them in her heart," desiring the blessing promised to him that overcometh, even to be given to eat of the hidden manna and to receive the white stone, and in the stone a new name written which no man knoweth, saving him that received it. She has consequently left few memoranda of the exercises of her early life, but those few are confirmatory of the deep and heartfelt experiences permitted to fit her for the important services to which she was afterwards called. From a memorandum under date of 10th month 25th 1817 we extract as follows: "I have a renewed sense of the Divine visitation & am induced to endeavour to renew my covenant with Him who fully immensity. And feeling at this time something like a fresh spring of life from the life giving word of Him who sitteth on the throne of his glory, I am constrained to write a few words, if not for the advantage, at least for

the perusal of some into whose hands they may fall. And I feel a willingness to give up to the requirings of Truth as they may be manifested to me in future. And I see like endeavouring to suffer the loss of all that may obstruct the free course of the ever adored Truth, and do sincerely desire to be reduced to the condition of a truly dependent, humble, obedient one, that I may from this good hour, be encouraged and helped to be faithful if possible be fitted for an instrument in the great Master's hands, to bear his great and holy name as it were before the Gentiles. And O, that I may from this good hour, be encouraged and helped to be faithful in my small capacity, in bearing a strict testimony to the truth as it is in Jesus, in whatever way he may be pleased to call upon me for service. And that he, who hath often favoured and helped me, may be pleased to convince me clearly of whatever He, in infinite wisdom, may see meet to require at my hands. And O, that I may be kept by his mighty power unto the day of the Lord Jesus, and not be suffered to wander from the fold of rest, which the Lord hath prepared for those who love his appearance in their hearts. That I might not be of that number, who choose their own ways, and delight themselves in their own imaginations, whose hearts depart from the Lord. That He would graciously please, whenever he requires any service of me, an unworthy worm of the dust, to shew me with indubitable clearness, what he would have me to do, and that, He would also enable me to stand in his counsel all the remaining days of my life. That my eye and my cry may be unto Him, and Him alone, that he would never suffer me to leave nor forsake Him, but that I might cleave to Him with all my heart, soul, and might, mind and strength. And that He would enable me to stand, having my loins girt about with truth, and having done all that I may stand. And that the praise may be ascribed to Him to whom all honour are due."

Afterwards we find her again brought to a state of close exercise, again brought low. From a memorandum bearing the date of 11th month 3d 1818, we quote as follows: "Fasting last night and this morning with some very dear and dear friends, with whom I have had the privilege of being acquainted, for a few days past. I have had to examine closely my own heart, to know whether the gloom which has most of the time clouded my mind, was of my own creating or too much seeking, and whether it was not a stupidity which might have been overcome by proper exertion on my part. But I do not find anything of that nature to accuse myself of; but am induced to believe, that it is an exercise of the Lord's appointment, and that if it is patiently abode in, it will work together with the pleasanter parts of my journey for good. But words are altogether insufficient to express the depths of

the painful workings, through which I am disposed to pass in these days, the event of which I am not permitted to see. But I earnestly crave to be kept in a prayerful hoping and patiently waiting frame of mind, and that I may not be disposed to flee myself, and offer a vain offering. I charge you O ye daughters of Jerusalem, that ye stir not up, nor awake my beloved, until He please." Soon after the above memorandum was penned, she gave up to attend to some religious engagements in a place at some distance from home, having as she recently, for several months, been under much exercise of mind on account of this prospect of apprehended duty. From a memorandum under date of 31st of 5th month 1818 we quote an account of this little act of dedication. "Opportunity presenting I reluctantly went. But O the unbounded love, the tender compassion of our Heavenly Father. How was it manifested in this visit! Unworthy unworthy of the least of His mercies yet I was not only favoured with the unity and sympathy of several of the dear and tendered friends, but most of the time with the pure shining light of the Lord's glorious countenance. And though I hardly dared to ask for any visible reward for my labours, yet in mercy was I permitted to hear and feel some thanking of the Lord on behalf of such a wretch as I. May the Lord alone have the praise for his own work - for every day's experience teaches me that of myself I can do nothing for my own peace or the comfort of others. But blessed be the Holy Helper. He has said by his prophet, that He will take a worm to thresh the mountains; and it hath been abundantly verified through all ages. True friendships were commenced in this visit, which depend not on the casualties & circumstances of this life, but on the abiding of the parties, under the refining hand of the great Master. I was favoured to attend Plaine Monthly Meeting, which was a season of humiliation, which I desire to remember with unfeigned thanksgiving. After passing through some of the deepest baptisms I ever experienced, I returned home the 13th of 11th month with that tranquility which I ever wish to be truly thankful for, and felt that I could say, in my little measure, all is well."

From a memorandum dated 6mo. 1st. 1818, we quote as follows: "Wonderful indeed is the mercy, long suffering and forbearance of the Lord towards a poor unworthy worm of the dust, who is often transgressing his holy commandments, and resisting his blessed will. How hath His arm failing arm sustained me in the midst of deep probation, even when I was ready to doubt His love to me, and care over me. Blessed and forever blessed be Israel's unslumbering Shepherd for his inherent and independent attributes. And that He first loved us, even when we were strangers and aliens from the commonwealth of Israel. May his unmerited excellencies ever command the warmest love, and most humble reverence

of all His creatures, but of me above the rest. Ought not he to whom much is forgiven, to love much? May He graciously bestow on me the power and will to love Him, with all my heart, soul, mind, might and strength, and my neighbor as myself. And O, for that which enables us to love our enemies, do good to them that hate us, and pray for them that despitefully use and persecute us." How wonderful and yet how gracious are the dealings of the Lord with his dependent children, in that He seeth meet, even after seasons of favour such as are indicated by the foregoing memoranda of our dear departed friend, to again introduce her exercised soul into renewed baptisms, intended doubtless for its further purification! Such appears to have been her experience, as from the following memorandum bearing date 11th month 11th 1818: "So great and complicated have been my trials for some time that I have been ready to say at times of this life, I loath it, I would not live always; and O! that He would hide me in the grave, till his wrath be overpast. But O, for true resignation, and patience in afflictions and mortifications; O, for a clear sight of the hand of the Lord, in all this severe suffering." Thus were the gracious dealings of the Lord with her manifested, by which she was deepened in the root, and made fruitful in the branch.

In the year 1819 she went to Weare in New Hampshire where she was employed as a School teacher. Under date of 23d of first month 1820 she wrote to a respected and endeared friend of her former place of residence as follows; which may serve to shew the state of her mind at this time. "Though much depressed in my feelings and averse to exposing my present poverty and weakness, I think I may write a few words to thee, as I conclude thou art no stranger to the humiliating sense of total dependence on the great Head of the Church, and though I have no particular impulse, I have the privilege of informing thee, that thou hast often of late been the companion of my mind so much so, that I often thought of writing, but as often deferred it, to wait for something of more importance to write. The savour of life which has been witnessed at those seasons, has convinced me that I was then mercifully numbered among the living concerning whom there is hope. But it now seems, at times, quite otherwise, and I am almost ready to say, "there is no hope." However, I desire to keep low and humble, and to retain a remembrance of the wonders wrought in the land of Ham, and in the field of Zoan; I often remember thy account of the hours of anguish thou passed through, when thou gave up thy hope; and is has sometimes been a warning to me to hold fast the beginning of my confidence to the end thereof." In the year 1821 she had a certificate of removal to Weare Monthly Meeting, and on the 22d of 8th month in that year she was married to our friend

Enoch Page who was then a resident of Henniker within the limits of that Monthly Meeting. She with her husband continued to reside there until 1825, when they removed within the limits of this Monthly Meeting where our beloved friend afterwards had her home the remainder of her days.

We have now to contemplate her as a wife and mother in which capacities she scrupulously fulfilled her duties. It may we think truly be said that she was diligent in business and fervent in spirit, serving the Lord. A true helpmeet was she to her husband and a tenderly affectionate mother to her children, endeavouring to train them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. As a neighbor she was kind and affectionate, literally fulfilling the injunction to "visit the widows and the fatherless in their afflictions". And to the sick and distressed she was a friend ever ready to administer, according to her ability both to their outward and inward necessities. Her enlarged charity was not confined to any narrow limit, but expanded itself to include those of every name and of every race, whether bond or free. After her removal to reside within our limits, her gift in the ministry was enlarged, and she was acknowledged as a minister by this Monthly Meeting in the 10th month 1852. Her communications were sound and edifying for having partaken of that grace, and experienced of the verity of that truth (John 1.14) which came by Jesus Christ, she was qualified to point others to Him, who is the way and the life. And her ministry was to call all unto Him that they might experience redemption through his blood even the forgiveness of their sins. She was especially engaged to direct the attention of the mind to the light of Christ in the secret of the soul — "The word of God, inwardly revealed, which is quick and powerful, sharp and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart." Often was it her vocal desire in accordance with the prayer of the Psalmist: "Cast me not away from thy presence, and take not thy Holy Spirit from me". And earnestly did she exhort to take heed to the light while we have the light, for there is no man that has power over the spirit to retain the spirit. With the young and those of a tender frame of mind she feelingly sympathised, and for those exposed as she had been to the allurements of the world and its vanities, she felt much solicitude that their feet might be turned into the straight and narrow way that leadeth unto life. To a friend who resided in a foreign land, where Christianity was comparatively little known, she wrote under date of 4th of 5th month 1844 "I cannot at all doubt, that thy quickened mind has many times been made deeply sensible that it is not the blessing of the earth beneath, or of the deep that lieth under — but of the Heaven above that maketh truly rich, unto which no

sorrow is aided. I have been much pleased with an expression of an English friend, comparing the different conditions of mankind. He spake of the poor of this world, rich in faith, and the rich of this world, poor in spirit. Oh! what a blessing rests upon this class "theirs is the kingdom of heaven." The opportunities for observing different allotments in the vast family of man, have been, and probably will continue to be, extensive. I also have seen some variety in this respect, and I presume the result in the mind may be somewhat similar to that on my own - that the same God over all, is rich unto all that call upon his name. The sensitive mind must necessarily be pained at the grossness of that idolatrous worship which thou hast seen, and the excellency of the doctrines of the Gospel, are never more valuable, than when we find them opening a way for the eternal salvation of every rational being.

There is no other name given under heaven, or amongst men, whereby we can be saved, but by the name of Jesus Christ, even his name who is the true light that enlighteneth every man that cometh into the world. While we must deeply deplore the darkness of the mind, where the sacred Scriptures are not known or prized, we may yet rejoice in the belief that a measure or manifestation of the grace of God is given unto every man to profit withal - and as this is heeded and obeyed, salvation is wrought out. "By grace are ye saved, through faith, and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God" To the same friend, under date of 4th of 10th month, 1846, who had been bereaved of a darling child, she wrote "Whenever I have had the privilege of seeing or hearing thy letters to thy family I have rejoiced with them on thy account - but never more truly than when the chastening hand of our Heavenly Father was upon thee - and when I read thy account of thy perilous voyage, it was consoling to find, that in the hour of peril thy heart was lifted up and stayed on God, not that I feared that being "full", would lead thee to deny the great Giver - but seeing the liability of poor sick mortals to forget, I had greatly desired, that the God of this world might not be permitted to blind thy eyes; and I trust thou hast been learning to sing of mercy and of judgment." "Oh, give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good, for his mercy endureth forever." And now that it hath pleased Him, in whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge, to take thy cherished one to himself, having before given sweet assurance that "of such is the kingdom of heaven," may every murmur be suppressed, and from thy wounded yet subdued heart, may the language of resignation arise: "The Lord gave and the Lord taketh away, and blessed be thy name." How in structure was the language of one of old on a similar occasion: "He cannot return to me, but I must go to him". We are, it may be, but little behind, and while we remain here, may we be increasingly concerned to witness that full redemption which comes by Jesus Christ. Whatever

of earthly joy or sorrow, may be reserved for thee in a land of strangers, may He who brought again our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead, the great Shepherd of the sheep comfort thy heart."

Our dear friend was concerned to travel on Truth's account, and as a minister visited various parts of our own Yearly Meeting, and in the year 1836, she visited Virginia, attended the Yearly Meeting there, and all the meetings composing it, with many meetings on her way out and home, to her own peace and the comfort of her friends. She was accompanied on this journey by her beloved husband, and by our friend Elizabeth R. Nichols as a female companion.

In the years 1843 and 1844 she spent nearly six months in a visit in Gospel love in the Yearly Meeting of North Carolina, Virginia and Baltimore, and in the attendance of meetings on her way, having been at all the meetings of North Carolina, and all but three in that of Virginia, and many in that of Baltimore. This visit appears to have resulted in solid peace and satisfaction to her own mind, and she brought home returning minutes of the satisfaction of her friends with she travelled.

In the year 1846, she attended the Yearly Meetings of Philadelphia and New York, and in the Fall of 1848, she also attended the Yearly Meeting of Ohio. Thus did she cheerfully surrender the comforts of home for the promulgation of the gospel of peace, freely giving herself up to the service, and as she had freely received, so she freely dispensed of the word, rightly dividing it to the comfort of many of the mourners in Zion, and the encouragement of the heavy hearted in Jerusalem, as well as stirring up the pure mind in all to seek first the kingdom of heaven, and the righteousness thereof. Her beloved husband accompanied her in all her journies on Truth's account except in one instance of a short journey in our own Yearly Meeting, freely giving himself up to this engagement, and proving himself a true helpmeet to her indeed. In some memoranda, left by her of her exercises when abroad on a religious account, we find abundant evidence of her watchfulness unto prayer for the Divine direction, and her carefulness to move under its precious influence.

In the year 1846 she attended the Yearly Meeting of Friends in New York, and her mind was brought under deep exercise and travail, from the manifestation of a spirit of disaffection and want of unity with the body of friends by a few (similar to that which had produced a secession from her own Yearly Meeting the previous year) in the apprehension that they were called peculiarly to uphold soundness of doctrine, and were thereby subjected to suffering, not partaken of by the body at large. This apprehension as a necessary consequence tended to alienate the minds of such from their friends, and to separate them in a measure

from the concern and exercise of the body, and lead them to view themselves as separate from those upon whom the brethren and change of the body in the ordering of Truth was laid. Our dear friend saw clearly through the delusive nature of this spirit, and she felt herself called upon in much plainness, though in the pure springs of true gospel love to warn her friends against its desolating effects. Her communication in the Yearly Meeting of Ministers and Elders on that occasion is described as a powerful and remarkable appeal to those few, who as a last resort, made an appeal to the sympathies of friends on account of the little number who were suffering for Truth's sake, and who were, as they said, borne down by those who were striving to promote unsound doctrines. Our beloved friend arose, and in a feeling and impressive manner, related her own experience when she had been tempted with similar feelings. She said she also could have numbered myself as one of the suffering few. But through Divine favour I was mercifully delivered from that temptation, and can now feel much and deeply for those who are still under it. She then set forth in clear language the effects of such a spirit, and made a very solemn appeal to such as were tempted with it, to turn and flee from it, and become united in exercise with the body, and not to suffer themselves to be carried away with the idea that they were exclusively the suffering seed.

In 10th or 11th month 1849 she visited in a social way Gilmanton the place of her nativity, and the scene of many of her early exercises, sufferings and trials. Soon after her return, she addressed a letter to an early and kind friend there, in which she says, under date of 14th of 11th month 1849: "After leaving thy hospitable home, I made several pleasant visits and calls, which, added to the enjoyment I had been permitted to have with thee and others in thy neighbourhood, was truly a cause of gratitude, the more so, as it was unexpected. I trust the remembrance of it will not pass away. Thou knowest that many, very many bitter draughts had been the portion of my cup in that place in earlier days, and all those trials passed again and again before me; while there. But a sense of the mercy of God by which I had been delivered from them, and how manifestly the storm had become a calm, was consoling beyond expression. To me all the promises of the Most High have been yea and amen; and all who are called to take up their cross in the same way, will, I believe find Him a present helper in the needful time, and peace which the world cannot give, will be their portion. These things will I do unto them and not forsake them is the record of his Holy Word. May we ever trust in Him, and not be afraid." Thus did she commemorate the

goodness and mercy of her Saviour to her soul. All may see, may all, be thereby encouraged to dedicate ourselves, our all, to the service of so good and gracious a master, and come to know the end of our faith, even the salvation of our souls. In the letter above alluded to, she says "I expect to leave home in about two weeks to visit the meetings in Sandwich Quarterly Meeting, Massachusetts." In this prospect she engaged, and while in the preparation of it, she became convinced that a disease of a distressing nature (a cancer) had fastened itself upon her, but with her characteristic carefulness to avoid giving cause of pain & anxiety to others, she said little or nothing to any one respecting it, silently bearing the acute pain often attending it - and during the last year of her life, being as diligent in the attendance of our religious meetings, as at any former time. During this time, in the exercise of her gift, she was favoured so to minister as to give evidence of her close attention to the pointings of Truth, and her carefulness closely to follow her heavenly leader, and thus her communications, though not very frequent, were to the edification and comfort of her friends.

Her last public communication was in our morning meeting at Salem, 3d mo. 23d 1851; at which time she was enlarged in Gospel testimony, which was delivered not without effort from bodily weakness. Soon after this we were informed that the disease with which she was afflicted, had reached an alarming point. On the 31st of 5th month, she was visited by two highly valued ministering friends from a foreign land, who spoke to her in a very consoling manner, one of them addressing her with truly christian feeling as his beloved sister and fellow labourer in the bonds and consolations of the Gospel; and in the prospect of her submitting to a painful surgical operation, declared the sense he had that Divine support would be vouchsafed, and that in any event, and under all circumstances, the sustaining hand of her merciful God and Saviour would be underneath for her support. When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee, and through the rivers they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned, neither shall the flame kindle upon thee; for I am the Lord thy God, the Holy one of Israel, thy Saviour."

On the afternoon of the next day 4th month 1st. our dear friend submitted to a surgical operation of great extent, which she bore well. This confined her immediately to her bed, where for some weeks she was compelled to lie. During this time she suffered severely from bodily pain. She was favoured however, to recover from the immediate effects of the operation, and for a time, there seemed to be a prospect of her restoration to comparative health - but, afterwards, symptoms appeared which warned her that she must surrender this expectation,

and shortly part with all she held dear in this life. Her ties to life were strong. She was surrounded by an interesting family, whom she dearly loved, and a large circle of friends to whom she was tenderly attached, and who regarded her as a sister and friend, with no common ties of attachment. She doubtless had a struggle in her mind to give up all these tender ties and attachments — But He who had been her stay and staff through life, and whom she had served with so much faithfulness, was near to help and sustain her in her hour of need; and by his almighty arm of power enabled her to surrender her all to his wise disposal, and her reward was sure. Sweet peace, the consolations of the gospel were mercifully witnessed by her in a manner entirely to her own comfort, and the comfort and consolation of her friends. About four weeks before her decease speaking to a dear friend who had called to see her of the nature of her disease and of her feelings under it, during its progress, she said that she had felt great depression of spirits, and a great reluctance to cause anxiety and trouble to her family by divulging it. Under these feelings said she, "I was looking to see who I should consult, and of whom I should take counsel, when a holy calm spreading over my mind, the language was distinctly heard by me as if thou had spoken it to me, speaking to my mental ear "Have I not been to thee a wonderful counsellor?" To which my heart so fully responded, that all my distress and anxiety passed from me, and I was mercifully enabled to feel peaceful and quiet." After a pause, she added, "I have from my youth never desired length of days or riches, but rather that I might fill up my measure in the truth. Several times during her sickness when suffering severely from neuralgic pains, she would look upon her daughter, who constantly attended her, and faithfully administered to her and say, "If I had a troubled conscience, in addition to these bodily pains, I could not live through them".

On First day 6 mo 1. two kind friends visited her, to whom she remarked in allusion to her sickness and suffering, "that it was not in anger but in mercy, that she was thus afflicted". On parting she said "give my love to all my friends, and ask them to pray for me that my patience may hold out".

On Fifth day 6th month 6th, she was visited by two friends from a neighbouring meeting to whom she was much attached, and to whom she remarked: "I feel differently since finding nothing can be done to restore me, and I have given up all. I feel relieved. Speaking of the approaching Yearly Meeting ~~but~~ she hoped all would go, who could — that some appeared careless and indifferent in attending Yearly Meeting, but she hoped ~~they~~ all would ~~all~~ go with a right concern, and further remarked, "how much I have enjoyed the privilege of attending

these meetings and mingling with my friends, at my time but at these times. I think we cannot discover how great the privilege is until we are deprived of it. Allusion being made by the friends to some meetings which they had attended with her in which she had been silent, she said "that she had at times felt her mind depressed, and although she had been mostly silent in meetings for some time, she had endeavoured to draw nigh unto God, and He had drawn nigh unto her, and she had had sweet meetings." She further remarked that she "had endeavoured to attend to the religious services which she believed were required of her, though (said she) I speak it not boastingly, for after having done all I feel myself an unprofitable servant." After a pause, she added "What would become of me at such a time as this, had I lived in forgetfulness of God? There nothing in my way, my mind is peaceful, and I have entirely resigned to my heavenly Father's will, either to live or die." She then bid these friends, & another dear friend about two weeks before her death she remarked "I feel calm and composed. I can see all the way through all is clear and bright" About a week before her death she was speaking to a dear friend of her peaceful state at that time, when she remarked that it cost her many severe struggles to part with her family and friends; and that in resigning them she resigned all of this world, and that she had been mercifully united to do so.

The week before her death, she desired a friend who called to see her to give her love to one confined at home by sickness and said, give my love to all my friends. I love them all, and my enemies too, if I have any, though I am not aware that I have any. She then said she had given up all hope of recovery and only desired patience to the end. And only two days before her death she desired a friend going to the Yearly Meeting to give her love to all her friends, as though mentioned.

About twenty four hours before she died, a friend called to see her, and after an interview of a few minutes, as she was very weak in body, though mentally strong and collected. Whilst taking his hand in parting with him, she said: "This is the last time we shall meet in this world. Farewell! Every thing looks pleasant before me: all is peace." On the morning of the day of her decease, her physician visited her, and observed to her that she had suffered much, and it was a satisfaction to him to witness her peaceful state. To which she replied, after expressing her thankfulness to him for his great kindness to her — "I should not have been sustained through so much affliction, had there not been a God nigh at hand. I have found him an all sufficient helper, an all sufficient portion to those who trust in Him." She frequently assured her husband that she had nothing in her way. She was able to articulate but little after the interview with the Physician, and on the afternoon of 6th month

10th 1851 quietly breathed her last. "Say unto the righteous, it shall be well with him, for they shall eat the fruit of their doings." Her remains were interred in Friends' burial ground in Salem on fifth day the twelfth, on which occasion a solemn meeting was holden in Friends' Meeting House, and many consoling testimonies borne to the truth of the being added to that cloud of witnesses of the divine efficacy of that faith by which she had been made victorious over all her soul's enemies.

Signed on behalf of Salem Monthly Meeting of Friends held in Lynn 14th of 8th month 1851

Samuel Boyce
Eliza B. Boyce } Clerks.

At Salem Quarterly Meeting of Friends held in Lynn 21st of 8mo. 1851—

A memorial of Salem Monthly Meeting concerning our late beloved friend Sophronia Page was at this time read before our meeting of men and women Friends collectively assembled, and being fully approved the Clerks were directed to make an endorsement thereon of this minute, and sign it on our behalf, and forward it to our Meeting for Sufferings

Signed on behalf of the Meeting

Samuel Boyce
Eliza B. Boyce } Clerks

Testimony of Durham Monthly Meeting concerning our late beloved friend Stephen Jones, deceased.

It having pleased our Heavenly Father to remove from works to rewards our dear aged and much esteemed friend Stephen Jones, we think it right to bear the following brief testimony concerning him.

He was born the 22d of 2d month 1766, and was the son of Samuel and Wait Jones, who were valuable members of our religious society, he an approved minister. They were concerned to bring up their children as becometh our Christian profession; and we have reason to believe that their care and labor of love were blessed to them

The subject of this memoir appears to have been, in early life, wrought upon by the tendering influences of the Holy Spirit; and being mercifully favored to submit to the regenerating and sanctifying power thereof, he became qualified to take a part in the affairs of the Church to the satisfaction of his friends

He was appointed, when quite young to the station of an Elder; which station he acceptably filled to the end of his days. He was thoroughly established in the doctrines of the Christian religion as professed by Friends, and rounded in the Holy Scriptures. He often declared his unshaken belief in our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, both as it related to his outward coming in the flesh, his sufferings, death, resurrection, ascension, mediation, and intercession at the right hand of the Father; and to his spiritual appearance in the heart; to the inward manifestation of the Holy Spirit, powerfully working in the souls of men, and that it is the blessed privilege of all true believers, to be led and guided thereby, by which they come to have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ cleanseth them from all sin. Being settled in these essential doctrines, he had a lively sense of the way of life and salvation, by and through a once crucified, but now risen and glorified Saviour; and being quick of discernment, he became eminently qualified to watch over the flock. As an Elder, he ruled well. He was very helpful to those who were young in the ministry, often encouraging the humble, careful traveller, speaking a word in season to them who were weary; and although a plain dealer, sharply reproving at times, those who appeared too forward and self-confident, yet we believe it may safely be said of him that when he felt himself called upon to administer reproof or encouragement, he was concerned to seek for that Wisdom which is alone profitable to direct. He was closely attached to the discipline and order of our own Religious Society, believing, as he often said, it to have been established in the ordering of Best Wisdom He was much gifted in the administration of the discipline, and a zealous advocate for its maintenance; often admonishing such as

appeared to disregard the advices therein contained. He was a diligent attender of all our religious meetings, and his solid and weighty appearance in them was strengthening to us - particularly towards the latter part of his life, he seemed like one who knew much of that profound stillness in which the voice of the True Shepherd is heard, and God is worshipped in spirit and in truth. But it is not our object to swell this account or to attribute any thing to him as a man. We are aware that he was subject to like passions and infirmities as ourselves. We desire to give all the honor to Him, by whose grace he was qualified and strengthened to labor in his day for the promotion of the cause of Truth; and now that he is removed from the Church militant, may the Lord in his mercy sanctify this dispensation of his providence to us - may he raise up and qualify others to become valiant for his truth.

It now remains to give some account of his last sickness and death. It may be proper in the first place to mention, that our dear friend, a short time previous to his confinement, appeared to have been favored in a remarkable degree, with the overshadowing of heavenly goodness, in which his mind appears to have been filled with the divine light, which he describes as exceeding the brightness of the sun outwardly. He appeared cautious of saying much about his feelings on this occasion, but it was observed that an unusual solemnity appeared in his countenance, and he seemed much broken. He frequently mentioned after this, before he was taken sick, that he felt an uncommon sweetness to attend his mind. He often spoke of the beauties of creation, and seemed much affected in contemplating the works of that bounteous Being, who made all things, and by whose power they are upheld.

He was taken sick the 21st. of 3d mo. 1850, and for several days was exercised with very severe pain, but obtained relief and was more comfortable, and for several weeks his family and friends entertained hopes of his recovery. He said but little, but appeared calm and composed in mind; and on being inquired of relative to his being restored to health, he replied, "it is hid from me at present what the result will be as respects my recovery - but if it should prove to be my last sickness, I hope it will be well with me. I see nothing in particular in my way, but I have nothing of my own to depend upon; all my hopes centre in the boundless mercy of my Redeemer.

After having been sick about five or six weeks, his symptoms became more alarming, and it soon became evident that he could not long survive. His disorder was dropsy, from which he suffered, at times, very great distress, but was enabled to bear it without murmuring, and when favored with a little ease, he would express his thankfulness. At one time he said, after having a severe attack, oh! what a mercy I should

consider it to be released, if I was only peacefully off — but I must wait my Heavenly Father's time, which is the best time. He often prayed for strength to bear his sufferings, and that he might be preserved in patience to the end. A friend calling to take leave of him to attend the Yearly Meeting, he remarked that it was rather a low time with him, and that he had nothing in particular to say, but desired to be remembered in love to all his friends, adding, there are many who will be likely to be there that I feel nearly united with, but it is not probable that I shall ever see them again in this world. His situation from this time, which was about two weeks before the close, was peculiarly trying, as he could not lie down, owing to difficulty of breathing. But he appeared to be very much resigned, saying at one time, "although my distress seems almost insupportable, and I have very much desired, if consistent with the divine will, to be released, yet I must leave it with Him who knows what is best for me". At another time he said "I have much to be thankful for, surrounded as I am by so many kind friends who appear disposed to do all they can to make me comfortable; and I think I can say in sincerity I love them all." He frequently spoke of his approaching change with much composure, mentioning at one time the words of the Apostle: "I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day." Early in the morning of the day he died, a friend called to see him, and inquiring of him how he felt, he replied "Rather feeble. I am nearly through. The conflict with me, I trust, will soon be over." The friend observing that he appeared under exercise, sat down, the family being collected. After a time of silence, he addressed his beloved wife as follows "My dear, the time has nearly come when we must be separated, and may the Lord strengthen thee to bear this affliction. I believe it will be well with me". After a short pause he prayed "Oh! graciously wise and holy Father! be with us we pray thee, at this trying time. Thou hast been pleased to give us this bitter cup, and shall we not drink it? Oh, enable us to say thy will be done." After a short time of silence in which he appeared very solemn, he again supplicated "Oh! thou Holy One, condescend in the riches of thy love to be with the widow, strengthen the weak hands, and confirm the feeble knees, and enable her to submit with cheerfulness to this dispensation of thy providence, and grant Oh! glorious Father unto her when time here shall be no longer, an admittance into thy kingdom. Oh! be with the rising children, and enable them to come up in faithfulness to thee. Oh! eternally glorious God! though in thy holy and perfectly holy, we feel unworthy of thy notice, yet be pleased if consistent with thy will, at this time even now, in the winding up, to be near, and grant, for thy dear Son's sake, a little foretaste of the blessedness and glory of thy everlasting kingdom"

After a time of solemn silence, in which he seemed to have an earnest of his petition, he again broke out in fervent prayer for the Church nearly as follows: "Oh! merciful and holy Father, preserve thy people who make profession of thy name, and of the name of thy dear Son. Oh! be very near and sustain all thy believing children, the little band who have espoused thy glorious cause. Oh, enable them to be valiant for thy truth upon the earth. Preserve them Oh Lord! we humbly pray thee from the wiles of the enemy, and grant for Jesus' sake, strength to wrestle against spiritual wickedness in high places. Pour out thy Spirit upon them, that they may be ~~strengthened~~ enabled to teach others the way of life and salvation. Oh, grant unto them the spirit of supplication, that they may strengthened unwillingly to call upon thy name, and praise thee for thy mercy, for thou O Lord, art everlastingly worthy, and thy mercy endureth forever. Oh! be with the young and rising generation, strengthen them we humbly pray thee to yield obedience to thy commandments - gather them into thy heavenly enclosure, shed abroad thy love in their hearts, that they may be enabled to praise and adore thee." -

- Thus our dear friend continued for some time to supplicate and praise the Lord, saying, "the cords of my soul are loosed, and what shall I say." Everlasting praises to thee, O Lord! and to thy beloved Son, the immaculate Lamb for thou art eternally worthy. Glory to thee forever, and for evermore, world without end, Amen."

After a time of solemn waiting together, in which the hearts of all present were much affected, he took an affectionate leave of his dear wife, and children who were present, commending them to the protection of Him, by whose grace he said he had been mercifully strengthened to discharge his duty towards them. After this he said but little, but appeared like one who was waiting the appointed time to be released. His sufferings through the day were very great, until within about a quarter of an hour of his release, when his distress appeared to leave him. On being inquired of how he felt, he said peaceful which was his last word. After this he remained perfectly calm, and apparently easy, breathing shorter and shorter, until he passed like one falling into a sweet sleep, without sigh or even a struggle, and we reverently believe he has gone to rest with his Saviour.

He departed this life the 2d day of the 7th mo. 1850, aged eighty four years, four months and ten days

Signed by direction and on behalf of Durham Monthly Meeting of Friends, held the 20th of 1st month 1852

Samuel Jones }
Eunice J. Rich } Clerks

The foregoing testimony of Durham Monthly Meeting concerning our late beloved friend Stephen Jones, having been read at this time, was fully united with by this and the Women's Meeting, and the Clerks are directed to sign it on behalf of this meeting and forward it to the Meeting for Sufferings.

From the Minutes of Richmond Quarterly Meeting of Friends, held at Windham 2d Month 5th 1852

Samuel Jones
Lydia H. Jones } Clerks.

A Testimony of Vassalboro Monthly Meeting of N. C. concerning Alice Paige.

Alice Paige was the daughter of Thomas and Alice Rotman of Vassalboro' Maine, and was born the 31st of 12 mo. 1806. When about two years of age she became a member of this Meeting, with her mother who was then a widow, and who was soon after married to our friend Nathan G. Chase who united with her in concern to guard the tender minds of their children from the many snares incident to youth.

In early life she evinced a sweet and amiable disposition, and yielding to the gentle intimations of the Holy Spirit, she became imbued with the love of Christ; and as she advanced in life, she became a devoted servant in his cause. Often she was of age to attend school she was concerned to attend week-day meetings, and would sometimes say to her parents, "I shall lose my place and be the lowest in the class, but I had rather go to meeting with you". In a letter to her parents, while attending school at Providence, in the 17th year of her age, she writes &c. "When I reflect on the many privileges and favors you have granted me, it gives me feelings of gratitude, and I well know all you wish in recompense is that I should improve in that which will be beneficial to me in this life and lead to happiness in the world to come; and I desire that my engagement above every thing else may be to live in the fear and obidience of my Heavenly Father." Thus having submitted in good measure to the regulating influence of the cross of Christ, and through watchfulness and attention to his warning voice, having been preserved from falling a prey to the snares of the enemy, she became, as she advanced in years, a good example to the young. In the preservation, growth and establishment in the truth of these, she seemed livingly engaged; and being of an affectionate disposition, mild, courteous and easy of access, and disposed to enter into feeling and sympathy with the young in their trials, she occupied a large place in their affections; and under the sweetening influence of that love which is universal, she was enabled so to encourage, warn and reprove, in such manner, as seldom to offend, but rather to meet the witness for God in their hearts.

In the year 1825 she was united in marriage with our friend Joshua Paige, who found in her a true help meet. Her daily walk, her deep concern for the prosperity of truth, and her sincere regard for the welfare of the Church, bore testimony to the efficacy of that grace which is sufficient for all, and was a striking example of its powerful effects on the minds of those who early submit to its refining operations.

About the 29th year of her age, she first appeared in the ministry, and her gift therein was acknowledged by this meeting in her 33d year.

Her communications though not often lengthy, were weighty and impressive, accompanied with the evidence of being prepared by the great Head of the Church. When engaged in solemn supplication she appeared to be clothed with much humility and reverence, and was favored with near access to the throne of grace, and enabled feelingly to petition for divine assistance.

For those partaking of the cup of affliction, she was deeply interested, often feeling it her place to administer the balm of consolation, and to encourage them in faith and confidence to put their trust in the Lord alone, and thus witness him to bind up the broken heart and heal every wound.

Her example in the use of the plain scripture language was worthy of imitation. Perhaps her views of the subject cannot be better expressed than in her own words taken from a letter addressed to an absent child. "For more than twenty years I have considered that the ungrammatical use of the language usual with friends is a great barrier upon us, as a people in the view of others. I think we are not to wait for immediate direction to adopt the use of it. I believe it is the right language for every one." On a similar occasion she writes: "Let us not shrink from any baptism whatever used for our refinement. There is much of this to be done, to make us shine and have a pure lustre maintained. The great Friend wounds to heal, and kills to make alive." And again: "The ever blessed Master has at once pointed out a remedy for every temptation to which we are liable. What I say unto you, I say unto all, watch. This is the only place of safety, and the path that leads to prayer. Those who are careful to maintain the watch will be strengthened to stop every intrusive thought. One that faithfully watches cannot be long in real prayer, although it be but in the language of a sigh, which the great Apostle enjoined, and that it be with all perseverance."

She was taken sick the 23d of 12mo. 1848. On being enquired of how she felt as to recovering, she said "I feel perfectly easy, let it be as it may. I dont know how it may be, but rather think I cannot last long." About this time she said to her husband that on leaving the meeting house the last time she attended meeting, she felt that it would be the last, and she often urged her family to labor for the same quiet resignation which she so abundantly felt. In the early part of her sickness, speaking of being released and of giving up her family, she said "I believe I have no choice now - but it has required a hard struggle for a mother to get to such a place. I reasoned about it at first, thinking how can I give up my husband and children, but was reproved for it, and queried with in this language: "Canst thou not

resign them into his hands to whom thou wouldst commit thy own soul? And now I feel a precious confidence that he will take care of them while here on earth." At another time when speaking of leaving her children, she recommended the practice of carefully looking over and reading all little books before giving them to a child, lest there should be something in them tending to convey incorrect ideas to the young mind; also of being careful not to repeat unprofitable stories in their hearing, desiring they should be carefully guarded from every tendency to evil, even in its first and smallest appearances, for said she - "It would be my choice that my children should be taken out of the world, rather than they should bring any reproach upon the precious cause of truth." The subject of pernicious reading she seemed to keep very much in view during her life, regarding it as deadly poison to the mind, let it come through whatever channel, whether in the form of an acknowledged work of fiction, or one more deceptive, as found in many of our common newspapers. Against the latter she was equally as watchful as the former.

During her sickness, on one occasion, she said: "What a kind Providence we have to deal with! Have we heartily prepared to receive it? 'Tis every thing to feel such support in an hour like this. We are nothing, nothing - he is all mercy."

Speaking to some young friends who called to see her, she said "You have a work to perform, but you must keep low and humble in the opinion of yourselves before the Lord. Be careful not to go before your guide, but be faithful to every duty. You know what it is to trust in the Lord. Keep to it. Let all the bustle and tumult of the world go - dont mind it." At another time, she said, I would not exchange my situation for one of perfect health, if I could with a wish. This bed has been to me as one of roses, but all in mercy, great mercy. Oh! I am all unworthy of such great mercy." To a friend she remarked - "You must be faithful, faithful in little things; be willing to confess the Master before men, and he will confess thee before his Father and the holy angels". Again to others - "Give up your hearts to the Lord and he will prepare you for any thing he is pleased to require of you. Be faithful, and dont hold back through fear of your own unfitness. O, I have thought if you could only live in retirement. Let all the bustle of the world go. Is it not a satisfaction to sit down sometimes at night and turning our minds inward, hold communion with our Helper? There is a cross in it, I know - but these little things if we are faithful in them, will bring a great reward."

To some elderly friends she said "The Lord is looking for you now, in the decline of life, to give up all to him. O live prayerfully, day and night

I believe through much mercy this bed has been made by Him, as a bed of roses; but I have been only an unprofitable servant, if I may be accounted a servant at all. It is a great thing to be one of the dear Master's servants." To an aged woman, she said – "I have loved to think of the sweet and prayerful life thou art living. The Lord will be round about thee and support thee through. My sickness has been all comfort to me, although I have been such a sufferer. I am a poor, unworthy creature, nothing but dust and ashes." – "In unusual circumstances she said – "I have looked upon thee as a tribulated child, yet have comforted at the same time in believing that thou canst pour out thy complaint before the good Master. He, who has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows, will care for thee. I hope thou will be able to keep the patience. It is now a source of great consolation to me to believe, that in some deep provings which I have met, I have kept the patience. I have nothing to regret on that account. But it is all in great mercy. "Hold that fast which thou hast that no man take thy crown."

On parting with a near relative, she said "Have the kingdom of heaven and the things of it, first – then how trifling worldly things will seem, though they may be hard indeed to get along with here; yet if we can only get through and feel that peace on a sick bed which is so desirable, all will seem right as a bubble, and we shall be glad we could suffer for the truth's sake, and shall be prepared to realize that it is indeed through great tribulation that we can enter the promised land. Struggle on, and when the end comes thou will hear the sound "Well done good and faithful servant enter thou into the joy of thy Lord, and into thy Master's rest." The day before her departure, the family and several others standing round, she said, "I know you all perfectly, what a comfort to give you all up." And on being asked if she saw anything in her way, she said – "Nothing at all, all is peace, sweet peace beyond expression." A few hours before her decease she was distinctly heard to say: "O Lord thy will be done!" And very near the solemn close, she was strengthened to articulate the following words: "Glory! Hallelujah! Amen!" gently laying down her hands as she pronounced the last word; thus committing her departing spirit to her Savior, who we doubt not was with her through the valley and shadow of death, and has received her into that rest which remaineth for the people of God.

She died the 3d of 2d month 1849, in the 43d year of her age.

Signed on behalf and by direction of Thirsk Monthly Meeting of Friends, held 8th of 10th month 1852

John Page
Hannah Page } Clerks.

(over)

At Salem Quarterly Meeting of Friends held in Salem 15th of 1st. month 1852—

A Testimony of Weare Monthly Meeting concerning our late beloved friend Alice Page, was at this time read and approved; and the Clerk was directed to make an endorsement thereon of this minute, and forward it to our Meeting for Sufferings.

Signed on behalf of the Meeting

John Page, Assistant Clerk.
Eliza B. Boyce, Clerk.

A Testimony of Westport Monthly Meeting concerning Anna Macomber, deceased.

In preparing the following brief account of the dedication and circumspect life of our late beloved friend Anna Macomber, we have no desire to eulogize the dead; but to illustrate the operation of Divine Grace in its sufficiency as a leader and guide in the pathway of holiness.

The meek and quiet spirit of this devoted friend was strikingly manifested in her daily walk; and her deep and abiding sense of entire dependence on God in the various vicissitudes of life is calculated to encourage the humble christian, concerned to be found in the way of life and salvation. The subject of this memoir was born on Rhode Island the 24th of 4th mo. 1776 of parents not in membership with friends. At the early age of seven years she was deprived by death of a Mother's care and influence, when she went to reside in Newport. During her residence there she was attracted to attend one of our religious meetings from having heard of some of the peculiarities of friends, and soon after became convinced of our principles and was received into membership in the 12th month 1798.

In 1802 she was united in marriage to Isaac Macomber of Westport, in whom she had a kind husband and an attentive helper in the various trials and exercises she had to pass through, and became a member of this Monthly Meeting, where they resided the remainder of their days, her husband surviving her but a few months. Believing herself called to the work of the ministry, after much mental conflict and a protracted illness of several years, she was made willing to bow in humble submission to the divine will, and on being partially restored to health, she came forth acceptably in the exercise of her gift, which was acknowledged by her friends in the 8th month 1824. Her religious engagements were confined within the limits of New England Yearly Meeting, in visiting Meetings and families as she apprehended it required of her in the love of the gospel, being clothed with that humility and simplicity which characterize the disciples of our blessed Lord and Master. Her christian example in her family and neighborhood, with her labors of love, will long be remembered and cherished by those who were privileged with her company, and who witnessed her humble confidence in God, whom she loved and desired to serve in the integrity of her heart. She was often engaged in reading the Holy Scriptures, and in silent waiting having her family daily collected in the performance of this religious duty; and not unfrequently at other seasons was she observed to be solemnly retired before the Lord.

In her family and in the social circle she was beloved, a kind

and affectionate wife and mother, desiring their everlasting welfare above every consideration

Her belief in, and her attachment to the doctrines of the Gospel as professed by Friends, was strong and unabated during her long life, firmly supporting our Christian discipline and testimonies. Her concern in the attendance of religious meetings was strikingly apparent, evincing her abiding love of her Redeemer, often attending them when in very feeble health, and engaging in other religious services, which she believed her Divine Master required at her hands. Although in limited circumstances and in somewhat of an obscure situation, she was often engaged in visiting the sick and afflicted, extending her sympathy and kind attentions, ministering the word of consolation and encouragement, when all human help seemed unavailing.

Under much bodily infirmity, she was enabled to attend the Yearly Meeting previous to her decease and acknowledged it to have been a great privilege to mingle once more with her friends, and partake of the blessings bestowed. She was soon after engaged in religious service in Falmouth, Massachusetts, visiting that meeting and nearly all the families of Friends belonging thereto. She also visited most of the families in her own Meeting, encouraging Friends in the attendance of our religious meetings, and to an increased concern to prepare for the solemn change that awaits all. She had the liberty of her friends to move a religious visit to a neighboring Quarterly Meeting, with their unity and sympathy, although in feeble health – our dear friend remarking that she believed it right for her to have the encouragement of her friends, if it was never accomplished. In an allusion to it in her last illness, she remarked to a friend "it is a great deal to say I am resigned in all things, but with regard to that visit I may say I feel perfect resignation. Thou knowest how hard it was for me to give up, but I was favored to submit. My will was surrendered, and I think I have since seen, yes clearly seen, that this surrender was accepted instead of the deed, and I have nothing more to do with it."

Her illness was an attack of a prevailing epidemic, and although aware that the character of it was such as to render her recovery doubtful, she was preserved in quietness. On 2d day the 29th of 9th month, two dear friends calling upon her, she expressed great satisfaction in seeing them, and remarked "She had not seen how her illness would terminate, whether in life or death," and added "I never was so ill in my life and especially with a disease so critical, when I felt so calm. When I was first taken a solemn quiet covered my mind, and it remains unbroken. Oh! it is a great favour. She did not seem much disposed to converse but manifested a Christian resignation in patiently enduring her sufferings,

gracefully desiring the peace with which she had been favored might remain unbroken to the end; which was mercifully granted her, she kindly seeming conscious of her extreme suffering, her mind being evidently detached from every thing of an earthly nature, and centered on her God and Saviour. She continued to grow weaker and weaker until the 8th of 10 mo. 1851, when she quietly breathed her last, aged 75 years, and we reverently trust and believe her purified spirit was permitted to enter the mansions of everlasting rest and peace.

Signed in and by direction of Westport Monthly Meeting of Friends, held at Westport the 17th of 2d mo. 1853

John Macomber
Lydia C. Earl } Clerks

The foregoing testimony of Westport Monthly Meeting on behalf of our late dear friend Abner Macomber was read and united with by this meeting, and the Clerks were directed to endorse thy minute thereon, sign it on our behalf, and forward the testimony to the Meeting for Sufferings.

From the minutes of Sandwich Quarterly Meeting held at New Bedford 4th month 7th 1853

Wm C Taber
Sarah R. Anthony } Clerks.

A Testimony from Rhode-Island Monthly Meeting concerning Elizabeth Wing.

Our beloved friend, Elizabeth Wing, was the daughter of Samuel and Hannah Hopkins, and was born in Philadelphia 3d Month 20th 1776.

In childhood she was favored with the gentle influences of our Heavenly Father's regard, as appears by her own remarks in her diary, in which she expresses that in early life the Lord visited her with the tendering impressions of His love so as often to melt her heart, and particularly when her parents collected their children together for retirement, a practice they were much in the habit of. She could not forget some of those seasons when her dear father was engaged in prayer for his children. Her heart was greatly affected while she but little understood that it was the hand of the Lord that was thus upon her.

In early life she was married to Roger Hunt, but this union was of short continuance, for in about three years her dear husband was suddenly removed by death. At this time the hand of Him who saw meet thus to chasten her was mercifully extended, the being pleased to manifest himself to her, as her Lord and Saviour, as appears from her memoranda. "At this season of deep and heart-rending affliction, the Father of mercies was pleased to renew His visitations of divine love to my soul. He stained my pleasant pictures, removing the dear object of my affection. I was favoured to close in with these Divine visitations, but not until trials and disappointments had come upon me".

Many and deep were the Baptisms appointed her of Him who saw meet to call her, and thus to prepare her to declare to others what the Lord had done for her, and to preach the unsearchable riches of Christ, under which her soul longed for a living experience in that which crucified to this world. She appears to have deeply felt the necessity of a preparation of heart for the solemn vocation to which she was called, and in much trembling expressed a few words in a religious Meeting to the comfort of Friends.

After her gift in the ministry was acknowledged by the Monthly Meeting of which she was a member, she was concerned in the exercise of it to visit many of the neighbouring Meetings, and some of the families composing them. In 1812 she visited some parts of New England, being subsequently engaged several months on a religious visit within the Yearly Meeting of North-Carolina.

Some time after this she removed with her parents to Frankfort, Pennsylvania, where she continued, in the love of the gospel, to visit

Meetings and Friends in divers places.

After the death of her parents she became a member of Shrewsbury Monthly Meeting, and being concerned faithfully to discharge her religious duty, she was engaged in visiting several of the Yearly Meetings on this continent.

In 1826, she was married to our friend Edward Wing, and removed to New-Bedford, Mass. Here she was again proved by deep exercises of mind. It was a time of much trial, and she was renewedly concerned on this account, that our section of the Christian Church might continue firm on its first and sure foundation, saying, "Oh! that our Zion might arise and shake herself from the dust of the earth, and shine in the brightness in which she was first gathered, and we were owned as a people. I long for the day to arrive when the meekness of the lamb may more appear, evincing that we are true followers of Christ, bearing His blessed yoke and treading in the path of self denial.

In 1830, she removed, with her husband, to live within the limits of this Monthly Meeting; and from that time, continued with us in unity and Christian fellowship. And it is under a lively impression of her upright walk among us, and a deep sense of our privation by her removal, that we are concerned to bear testimony to the efficacy of that Divine grace which so wrought in her to the purifying of the heart, and qualified her to become a skillful laborer in the Master's service. It is meet that such as these be held in remembrance as an encouragement to hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering. She was distinguished as an example of great simplicity, united with true christian dignity. Possessing a cheerful and social disposition, she was a pleasant companion, bearing the evidence of a watchful and guarded spirit, and her deportment was dignified and instructive. In the administration of the Discipline her judgment was clear and impartial, seeking the honor of Truth, and the health of the Body.

Her ministry was sound and edifying, and under the influence, as we believe, of Divine Truth, it met the faithful witness in the hearers, and being careful not to move without right authority, she was also cautious not to exceed its limitations. Her communications were peculiarly animating to those who were in bonds, to the afflicted, her language being both soothing and encouraging. She was often led into deep poverty of spirit, saying "I have not one crumb of bread in all my house" — hence she was qualified to sympathize with those who were hungering for the bread of life, and as the divine Master was pleased to bless and to break it, she was often the instrument in His holy hand to dispense it unto others to the satisfying of their spiritual necessities, and to the sustenance of their souls. Trying as was the nature of the service required

of her, in dedicated obedience; she yielded herself to it, being in several instances called to plead with those who were engaged in the sale of ardent spirits; and we reverently believe that in many instances this labor had a salutary effect, being blessed to some to whom her mind was thus drawn. She was diligent and faithful in her Lord's service, being often engaged in visiting meetings and families in different parts of our own Yearly Meeting, and often concerned in gospel love to minister to others not in religious connection with us. Numerous were the testimonials that these visits were to their edification.

But a little before the close of life she attended the burial of our dear aged friend Hannah Dennis to whom she was closely united, and with whom she had for many years harmoniously labored for the prosperity of the Church. Her religious services on this occasion were very striking and impressive.

She was spared the suffering of a protracted sickness, being suddenly taken ill on the night of the 14th of ninth month 1852, and in a very short time the scene closed, and we reverently believe that her lamp was trimmed and burning, and that through the mercy of God in Christ Jesus she was permitted to enter with the glorious Bridegroom of Souls into the marriage chamber of the Lamb. Her remains were interred in Friends' burial ground at Portsmouth, R. I. on the 16th, after a large and solemn meeting, which was held on the occasion.

Signed in behalf of Rhode Island Monthly Meeting 1 month 26th, 1854

David Buffum
Mary Williams } Clerks.

At Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting held at Providence the 2d of 2d month 1854 –

The foregoing testimony of Rhode Island Monthly Meeting concerning our late beloved friend Elizabeth Wing being read and approved it is directed that it be forwarded to the Meeting for Sufferings.

From the Minutes of the Meeting

Gilbert Congdon
Sarah F. Tobey } Clerks.

A Testimony of Rhode Island Monthly Meeting concerning our deceased friend Hannah Dennis.

Our beloved friend Hannah Dennis, was the daughter of Simpson and Ruth Freeman, and was born in Portsmouth on Rhode Island 1st. month 27th. 1769. Her parents were sensible of the importance of rearing their children in the admonition of the Lord". This blessing in childhood shielded her from many temptations, which often lead the footsteps of the unwary into paths that sometimes to be retraced with remorse, and anguish of spirit. On the contrary, we believe that the watchful care, and pious counsel, which our dear friend received, was not only the means of preserving her from many snares, but also to prepare the ground for the good seed of the Kingdom, which, being fostered in its tender growth, increased to the exceeding joy of its possessor; and the care and guidance of the good Husbandman continued throughout a long life, to be to her an unfailing support, amidst the various vicissitudes of this probationary scene.

She was married to James Dennis 12th month 7th 1791. We have but very little account of the exercises by which she was disciplined, and qualified for usefulness in the militant Church, or of the baptisms to which she was subjected before. A gift in the Ministry was dispensed to her. Her first appearance was about the 35th year of her age, which being acceptable to Friends, her gift was subsequently acknowledged by Rhode Island Monthly Meeting. One of the strong features of her ministry was earnest exhortation, and encouragement to faithfulness and dedication of heart, and an unreserved submission to the pointings of Truth, whether they led into suffering, or active service; expressing a full and firm belief that we should be enabled to perform whatever duty clearly shown to be our duty, through the help of Him who calleth us thereto. She was often engaged in gospel love to pay visits in different parts of Rhode Island Yearly Meeting, and also in the families of Friends, offering the language of comfort and encouragement. In 1812 in company with our late dear friend Anne Greene, she visited the Meetings in several Quarterly Meetings within the limits of New York Yearly Meeting, and in 1825 received a certificate to accompany our late dear friend Susan Tucker, in a visit to some of the Monthly Meetings, in a visit to some of the Quarterly Meetings constituting Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, bringing on her return satisfactory evidence, that her services had been acceptable and encouraging.

She was diligent in fulfilling the important duty of visiting the sick and afflicted, entering into sympathy with them, and was often instrumental in imparting encouragement and consolation to those who

were under the chastening hand. She was an instructive example of dedication to her Lord and Master; and maintained a lively concern for the promotion of Truth; her exertions in the attendance of our religious Meetings were worthy of imitation, she, sometimes, overcoming difficulties, in which many would have shrunk.

Having been a firm believer in our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, in his Reward and Mediation, wherein he tasted death for every man; and having been faithful to the measure of divine grace with which she was favored during the days of her earthly pilgrimage, He was pleased to manifest himself to be the God of all consolation, when nature was sinking to decay. She was favored to look back upon the precious evidences of his love throughout her protracted course, with gratitude, and in quiet hope, and confiding composure to the future, as in the arms of parental love. Though her bodily sufferings were sometimes very great, no anxieties, nor fears, disturbed the equanimity of her soul. The influence of her purified spirit was felt by those around her, on the dawn of that love that cometh from above. And being thus clothed with a measure of the Saviour's peace, she was permitted to have a view of the crown which was laid up in store for her, rejoicing in Hope, and we believe her sun went down without a cloud, and, through the mercy of a once crucified Redeemer, her ransomed spirit obtained an admittance into the kingdom of Heaven.

She departed this life, in Newport on 7th day the 24th of the 7th month 1852, and was buried on 3d day following the 27th. in a family burying place, in Portsmouth, after a solemn meeting in Friends' Meeting House at that place, where a striking and memorable testimony was borne to the efficacy of that grace which had qualified her to rise to the rank of a Mother in Israel, and to maintain her place to the last, by one who knew her well, and who very soon followed her from works to rewards: As they had often taken sweet counsel together, while living, so, in death, it may be said they were scarcely divided.

Signed on behalf of Rhode Island Monthly Meeting of Friends, held at Newport 3d mo. 30th 1854

(David Buffum)
(Mary Peckham) Clerks

At Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting of Friends held at East Greenwich 4th month 11th 1854 — The foregoing Testimony of Rhode Island Monthly Meeting concerning our late beloved friend Hannah Dennis was received at this time, and being read and approved, was directed to be forwarded to the Meeting for Sufferings

Gilbert Congdon } Clerks
Sarah H. Wing }

Testimony of Ballitrough Monthly Meeting concerning our late aged and worthy friend Stephen Nichols.

It hath pleased Infinite Wisdom to remove from works to rewards our beloved friend and Elder in the Church; we feel engaged to bear the following Testimony to his Christian Character. He was born at Berwick, the 12th of the 2d month 1769. Of his early life we have but little account, except from circumstances which he has been heard to relate. From these it appears, he early yielded to the impressions of religious duty, as the following incident which he related to some of his children, the day of his death, will illustrate - that when he was a youth, being at the house of an aged friend, while on a journey, he heard it remarked by some of the family that it was their Meeting day. He felt it his duty to attend it, and went alone to the meeting house, and on entering, found there but three aged Friends, who alone composed the meeting; yet, it was, through mercy, to our beloved friend a season of Divine favour, proving an awakening and confirming opportunity - which he remembered unto the day of his death.

In the year 1794, he married and settled within the limits of Bolton Monthly Meeting, having resided there for several previous years. But it pleased our Heavenly Father, that this union should be of short duration. In 1796 his companion was removed by death. Away while mourning the lonely path in which he was now called to walk, that his mind was turned to this part of our Country, under a belief that it was his proper place. He accordingly made arrangements for a settlement, and in 1799 he was again married to a member of Derby and Monthly Meeting, and came to reside within our limits. This was in the early settlement of this Meeting, and much religious labor devolved upon a few. Our beloved friend united with his brethren in an earnest desire for the promotion of the Redeemer's Kingdom among men. He several times accompanied those who were travelling in the ministry, and we have reason to believe that he was favored to exert an influence for good over divers individuals who afterwards became prominent and useful members of our religious Society, and with whom he preserved an endeared friendship during their lives.

As an Overseer he was diligent and faithful, feeling the weight and responsibility of the Station - And having given evidence of being a duly anointed Labourer in the Church, in the year 1813 he was appointed an Elder, which Station he acceptably filled to the close of his life. Being sound in faith and doctrine, and of a discerning spirit, he was engaged for the support of a sound and living ministry; faithfully and affectionately offering counsel and advice, as well as encouragement

to those who were called to this important service, manifesting in all his labours that meekness, simplicity and humility which peculiarly characterized him through life. In his family he laboured early and earnestly for the maintenance of true christian simplicity and the support of our various testimonies. In the attendance of all our religious meetings, he was a truly worthy example, seldom absent even in old age, manifesting by his weighty & spirit which was truly instructive - and he was earnestly concerned for his family and friends that they might be partakers with him of that spiritual refreshment which is to be derived from those seasons, not being willing that any of them should be left behind on account of any secular concerns; expressing his belief that a blessing would rest upon a sacrifice thus made. Thus publickly acknowledging his dependence upon his Heavenly Father, and upon that mercy and grace which come through Christ Jesus our Lord, he was in the practice of daily assembling his family about him to read the Holy Scriptures, and to wait upon the Lord. He mourned over any departure from our Christian principles and testimonies, believing those who thus departed would sustain a loss thereby.

In the trials and afflictions of this life, he frequently tasted largely, having thrice been bereaved of the beloved partners of his joys and sorrows. But in all these he was sustained by that everlasting arm of Divine power, which is the support of those who trust in the Lord. Thus did he travel through this world as a stranger and pilgrim, journeying to that "City which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God."

For the last few years of his life, he was, from age and inability, much disengaged from outward business, and appeared as one waiting for the coming of his Lord. The lively interest he had manifested in early life in the affairs of society, continued unabated to the last. In the society of those with whom he had been united in the service of the Church, he took much delight, and his mind was remarkably clear upon the subjects of interest relating thereto.

On the 4th of the 8th month last, whilst making preparation for attending meeting, he was taken unwell; and although there was, apparently, nothing of an alarming nature in his disorder, yet he believed it would be his last sickness, and repeatedly thought it would be of short duration. He was sensible of his situation. His mind was calm and composed, conversing with those about him, until within a few hours of his death. He departed this life, the 8th of 8th month 1853, in the eighty-fifth year of his age. "He humbly trusted he was gone to join the ransomed of all generations," "Having come to his

grave, in a full age, like as a shock of corn cometh in, in his season.

Signed by direction and on behalf of Vassalborough Monthly Meeting of Friends, held at E. Vassalborough 5th mo. 17th 1851.

Joseph H. Cole
Jacob B. Nichols } Clerks.

The foregoing Testimony from Vassalboro' Monthly Meeting was read in this Meeting, and being approved, the Clerk was directed to forward it to the Meeting for Sufferings.

From the Minutes of Vassalboro' Quarterly Meeting of Friends held at East Vassalboro' 5th Month 26th 1851.

Joseph H. Cole
Ann E. Lang } Clerks.

Testimony of Greenwich Monthly Meeting concerning our late beloved friend Thomas Anthony, deceased.

Thomas Anthony was the son of Daniel and Mary Anthony, and born in North Providence, Rhode Island, the twenty-seventh day of the ninth month 1796. His parents were members of the religious Society of Friends, and concerned to bring up their children in the fear of the Lord. Their son Thomas was naturally of an amiable disposition, and as he grew in years he gave evidence of the tendering influences of divine grace upon his heart. And although we have no memorandum of his early life, yet as he grew to manhood, his diligence in the attendance of the religious meetings, and the solidity of his deportment, with the love and interest which he manifested for the cause of truth, were evidences of his increased love to our blessed Saviour, who had called him out of darkness into his marvelous light, and had set before him the joys of his salvation.

In the twenty-seventh year of his age, he was married to our friend Anna Knowles, and in the year 1805, they removed to North Kingston and became members of this Monthly Meeting. Their residence was located, and several miles from Meeting but his love and faithfulness to be present with his friends in their religious Meetings, is worthy of imitation. And as he was concerned through repentance to experience that purification which is savingly known through faith in the atoning blood of Christ, he found to his great joy, his feet mercifully turned into the way of reconciliation and peace. And as his heart was often filled with the Saviour's love, he felt constrained to declare to others of what the Lord had done for him. In humility, he was concerned to receive the truth in its simplicity of it, and as his heart became enlarged and enriched with that grace which is the gift of God, and saving, through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, he felt himself called to the work of the ministry; and being thus commissioned to preach the unsearchable riches of Christ, he was acknowledged a minister of the gospel, in 1817, and through all his subsequent life, he was concerned to be faithful in the exercise of this gift.

Being possessed of a cheerful and amiable disposition of mind, he was much respected by all who knew him. In the social relations he was a kind affectionate husband, a tender and judicious father, and in the Church, a beloved and honored brother, sound and edifying in his ministry, careful to follow the leadings of the heavenly Shepherd, and not to exceed right bounds. He was gifted and qualified for usefulness in the administration of discipline, and management of the business of the Society, in a clear pertinent and efficient manner.

In thus delineating the character of our late beloved friend we have no wish to eulogize the creature, but to commemorate and exalt that Grace

by which he was, what he was, the humble disciple and follower of Jesus, and his servant in the Church, whose memory is precious to many. He was not only diligent in the exercise of his Gift, among friends and others within the limits of his own Monthly and Quarterly Meetings, but was drawn in Gospel love to those more remote, including many of the meetings of Friends in New England, and also to the Yearly Meeting of New York, and from the testimonies received it appears that his labours of love were very acceptable to those whom he visited. He was often in the way of his duty, to attend the burial of the deceased. On these solemn occasions, he was a messenger of consolation to the afflicted and bereaved, in warning the careless and unconcerned, and pressing upon the minds of the assembled company, a sense of their own latter end, and the necessity of a saving interest in our adorable Saviour; and many have had cause to bless the Lord on these interesting occasions.

In the year 1817, his dear wife was removed by death, leaving him in charge of their Six Children, whom he was concerned to nurture in the fear of the Lord. In this afflicting bereavement, he was remarkably sustained in Christian composure, being resigned to the Divine Will. In the year 1823, he was married to our friend Lois Chace, with whom he lived until 1843, when it pleased the Lord to remove her by death. And here again, under this trying dispensation, he was mercifully supported, evincing his humble resignation to his heavenly Father's will. In the spring of 1853 he disposed of his Estate in North Kingston, and removed to Warwick, near the village of East Greenwich, taking with him those of his family that were not yet settled in life. He appeared cheerful and pleasant in his new residence, enjoying the company of his friends, and was often largely engaged in the ministry.

But it soon pleased the Lord to visit him with a protracted illness, from which he did not fully recover. This visitation appears to have been received by him, as being in the ordering of Divine goodness, and earnest were his desires to be found in readiness, when his Lord should come. To a friend who visited him in the early part of his sickness, he alluded to the last meeting which he had attended, saying, that to him it was such an one as he did not remember before to have witnessed; and that it was in the way of his duty to speak of that salvation which cometh by Jesus Christ, dwelling largely upon the love of God, as manifested in the holy offices of our adorable Saviour, and the necessity of a saving belief in Him, as the object of our love, and as the Author of our faith, saying as he drew towards the conclusion, it appeared clear to him, that he was nearly finishing his ministry, and on taking his seat, a holy serenity rested upon his mind, and he was enabled thankfully to bless the name of the Lord. He so far recovered from his illness, as to attend meetings at [illegible], but it was evident, that the disease which

was often distressing, was still in progress, and that it might terminate his natural life, at any time. He was favored through all, with Christian patience and resignation, manifesting his unabated love, to his Lord and Saviour, and often sending kind messages of love to his friends.

On the 15th of 3d month, 1854, he had a very interesting opportunity with his family, manifesting a lively concern for the welfare of each member of it - and the day following, being the first day of the week, he had his friends, and those who generally attend our meetings, invited to his house, under a religious concern, where a very impressive opportunity was had with them, in which he was led to encourage to faithfulness in their several religious duties, particularly in the attendance of all their religious meetings; saying that he had no doubt these Meetings were established in the unchangeable Truth, and that it had often been given him to rejoice in them, repeating the words of our Saviour: "Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them". On another occasion, he remarked, that he was called to serve the Lord, when very young, and he saw (if he was faithful) what would be his service in the Church, adding that notwithstanding his short comings, the Lord had not cast him off, but that he had been mercifully favoured to keep the covenant into which he entered in early life. And now being confined to his house, he often spoke of the approaching Quarterly Meeting, saying that he should like to see his friends once more.

Fifth month 3d 1854, the Quarterly Meeting of Ministers and Elders was held at East Greenwich, and he joyfully received his friends who called upon him, appearing as one waiting for the coming of the Lord.

On the 4th was held the general Quarterly Meeting, and many were interested and comforted in visiting this dear friend, whose heart seemed to overflow with love to the brethren, uttering many weighty and precious expressions, declaring his clear conviction, that we were not following cunningly devised fables, but the truth as it is in Jesus. It was affecting to hear him relate what occurred a few nights before; that he was awaked from sleep by what appeared to him a melodious voice of singing, but soon became satisfied it was the sound of his own voice, uttering the praises of God and the Lamb; and the expressions of David were fresh when his mind, "Let every thing that hath breath praise the Lord", adding, that his heart was so filled with Divine love, that his cup was full and ran over. He expressed his apprehension, to several of his friends, at parting, that they would see his face no more in this life, which proved to be the case

He retired to his room, early in the evening, and after a little quiet, to his bed. About 9 O'clock, it was perceived that his breathing was more difficult, when the family attempted to arouse him, but without effect, and about 10 O'clock the 4th day of 5th month 1854, he calmly and peacefully

passed away, and we reverently believe to his everlasting rest. On First day the 7th his remains were interred from our Meeting house in East Greenwich, after a large and solemn meeting, wherein living testimony was borne to the devotedness and faithfulness of our dear friend in the cause of his Lord and Master, and to the efficacy of that grace, which cometh by Jesus Christ. Prayer and thanksgiving were offered up, reverently ascribing all the honour and glory to whom alone it is due. Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright, for the end of that man is peace"

Signed on behalf and by direction of Greenwich Monthly Meeting of Friends held at Coventry 4th Month 30th, 1855.

Isaac Peck
Bethiah L. Parker } Clerks

At Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting of Friends held at East-Greenwich the 3d of 5th mo. 1855. The foregoing testimony of Greenwich Monthly Meeting concerning our late beloved friend Thomas Anthony was read and approved and the Clerk was directed to forward it to the Meeting to which with a copy of this minute signed on our behalf.

Gilbert Congdon
Sarah B. Tobey } Clerks

Testimony of Litchfield Monthly Meeting concerning Moses Hadsworth, deceased.

Although awhile time has elapsed since the decease of our dear friend Moses Hadsworth, yet the remembrance of the many Christian virtues that adorned his character continues so to live and dwell with us, that we think it right to pay the following tribute to his worth, hoping it may stimulate his surviving friends, to follow him as he followed Christ.

He was the son of John and Jemusha Hadsworth, and was born at Stoughton, State of Massachusetts, the 20th of 2d. month 1774. At the early age of two years he was deprived of the paternal care and influence of his father, who was removed by death - consequently, the formation of his early impressions, and the moulding of his character, so far as human means were concerned, devolved almost entirely upon his mother, who, according to his recollection, was a pious and devoted woman, anxiously concerned to set good examples before her children, and to instill into their youthful minds principles of virtue. They were also early habituated to attend the place of worship, which was of the Congregational order, and taught to reverence and respect things sacred, and to exhibit a dignified differential debortment towards those whose age and position in society, would demand these marks of respect from them.

Subsequent to the death of his father, his mother was again married, but when he was about ten years of age, she too, was stricken down by the hand of death, leaving the subject of this memoir under the charge of his step-father with who he continued to reside until he was 14 years of age, when he removed with a married Sister to the town of Penobscot in the State of Maine.

We have reason to believe that the devoted efforts of his pious mother to train up her children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord were instrumental in the Divine hand, in directing his mind to the truth, and of inducing him to turn an attentive and listening ear to the still small voice as heard in the secret of the soul - for he used to relate, that in his tender years he had convictions of right and wrong, and that he often communed with a sister next him in age of what they thought it right to do, and to leave undone. A sense of the importance of time, and a desire rightly to discharge all the duties which his bereaving Father might require of him, early induced him to renounce the sports and pastimes in which the young are prone to engage, and in a composed and retirement to seek an acquaintance with his maker's will. In this way his mind appears to have been much occupied, until the time of his removal, above alluded to. Soon after this event, several interesting Friends held

public meetings in the neighborhood of his residence, which he attended, and found the doctrines they held forth, so in accordance of his own views and impressions, that he readily embraced them. A small meeting was established when he was about 17 years of age, in that vicinity, of which he was a diligent attendant, but he did not apply for membership, until about a year afterwards.

After his admission into membership he was diligent in the attendance of all our meetings, both for worship and discipline, which practice he continued through a long life, and often in his later years, when suffering under much bodily infirmity.

In the 25th year of his age he was united in marriage with Hannah Stevens, with whom he lived more than 52 years, faithfully discharging the duties of this sacred relation, and also the interesting and important ones required at the hands of a father of a numerous family. After his marriage he settled in the town of Winthrop, where he diligently pursued his occupation for a livelihood, and appearing anxious to obtain more of this world's goods than a sufficiency for the comfortable maintenance of himself and family. He was punctual to his engagements, and scrupulously careful in all his dealings to maintain strict honesty, and unwavering integrity of character.

In the year 1809 he removed to Litchfield where he resided the remainder of his life. About this time he gave evidence of the renewed visitations of his Heavenly Father's love, purifying and changing his heart - inducing a greater engagement to live a circumspect and devoted life, and bringing him to submit, at times, to the offering of a few words in the ministry. In this he felt anxious, and we believe maintained a watchful care, not to go forth in his own strength, or to transcend the limits prescribed by his heavenly guide. In the year 1822, his gift and public appearances in the ministry were acknowledged by Friends.

In the discharge of his duties as a minister he was generally brief, plain and clear in his manner, and accompanied by that evidence that often produced tenderness and contrition with his hearers. But the most important field of his labors was with individuals, and in the family circle. He was often led to expostulate with the young, the gay and volatile, and by mild persuasion and affectionate entreaty, endeavor to win the wanderer to the path of virtue. He seldom spoke of his own religious experience, even to his nearest friends, until within a few years, and more particularly a few months of his decease - but in the course of that time, he referred to it familiarly, recounting the occurrences of his early life in connection therewith. In the latter part of his life the cause of his Redeemer seemed interestingly dear to him, and he was often led to speak to his friends, according to their several states and conditions, by way of caution, exhortation, or encouragement

There were seasons in the life of our dear friend, which we apprehend is often the experience of the Christian traveller, when clouds were permitted to obscure his clear vision of the future; but in his last illness all these clouds were removed, and he seemed like one who had finished his labours, and was waiting in unwavering hope for his summons to enter into the joy of his Lord. At one time near his close while urging a grand-child to seek that good part which shall not be taken away, he remarked in substance, I was concerned when young to strive to gain an interest in the heavenly possessions, but I can now look back and see that I was often unfaithful, yet my heavenly Father has been pleased to forgive my omissions and commissions, and to give me an assurance of an inheritance in his Kingdom, and now on a sick bed this is worth more to me than all earthly things.

Although the disease that terminated his life was one that caused him much suffering, yet he bore all with patience and Christian resignation, often expressing a willingness to suffer all that his heavenly Father saw meet to permit. "What" said he to a friend that visited him in his last illness, "are all my sufferings in comparison to what my Saviour suffered for me? O may patience and resignation hold out to the end" adding,

"Jesus can make a dying bed
Feel soft as downy pillows are;
While on his breast I lean my head
And breathe my life out sweetly there;"

"Yes!" continued he, "while I can rest on the bosom of my Redeemer, I am safe".

While thus he seemed like a shock of corn fully ripe in its season, fit to be gathered into the glorious garner above, yet he expressed the sense he felt, even at that late hour of his need of watchfulness against our Soul's enemy, because said he "we are not out of the reach of temptation while we remain in the body; therefore it is necessary to keep up the warfare unto the end."

During the last few hours of his life, he was measurably released from bodily suffering. Although fully aware that the great and solemn change was about to take place, yet his mind was clear and tranquil, and no lingering cloud of doubt or fear dimmed the brightness of his prospect, but with unshaken reliance on the mercies of his Saviour, he departed this life the 21st of 12th month 1851. "The righteous hath hope in his death".

In the removal of this faithful servant, the Church has sustained a great loss, and especially the little flock with whom he was wont to mingle, for with them the sweet savour of his spirit has

often been felt to the refreshing of many minds, and we believe his memory will long remain precious, so that it may be said, that "he being dead yet speaketh"

Signed by direction and on behalf of Litchfield Monthly Meeting, held 5th month 18th 1855

Jacob Hope
Lucy J. Hawkes } Clerks.

At Fairfield Quarterly Meeting of Friends held 5th month 23d 1855 A testimony of Litchfield Monthly Meeting, concerning our late beloved friend Moses Headworth, was at this time, read and approved; and the Clerks were directed to make an endorsement thereon of this minute, and forward it to our Meeting for Sufferings

Signed on behalf of the Meeting,

Geo. Richardson
Lucy J. Hawkes } Clerks.

Testimony of Smithfield Monthly Meeting concerning our late beloved friend Lydia R. Killy deceased.

The subject of this Memorial was the daughter of Rowland and Alice Rathbun, and was born in Smithfield, R. I. the 13th of 7th month 1803.

In early life she manifested a quiet and gentle disposition which rendered her agreeable to her associates, and towards those older than herself she gave evidence of a becoming and respectful consideration and deference. As she grew up to womanhood, she was much esteemed by those with whom she mingled in the various relations of life, but we are not aware that up to this period she had given evidence of having witnessed that new birth, without which, no one can enter into the kingdom of heaven.

In the 5th month 1830 she was married to our friend Eli Killy, and became a member of the Meeting held at South Mendon.

In 1835 she was deeply affected in the removal by death of her oldest child, and, under this bereavement, she was brought very sensibly to realise her entire dependence upon her compassionate Saviour, and more fully to surrender herself to His guidance. The tender visitations of His love were continued to her - her heart was changed and renewed under the heavenly influences thereof, and she was brought to enter into holy covenant with her God. Walking in his fear, and engaged to know and do his will, she gave evidence that the work of grace was progressing in her heart, and the fruit of the Spirit was manifest.

In a few years from this time she apprehended our blessed Saviour called her to speak in his name to her fellow men, and yielding to this conviction of duty, she appeared in the Ministry, and, in 1845, her gift was acknowledged by Friends. Being of a very diffident and retiring disposition, it was a close trial to her to appear in this way, in public - but He, who required this service at her hands, was her strength, and guide, and support; and though her words were few, they met the witness in the hearts of her hearers, and proved savoury and edifying. In the early period of her ministry, she was often engaged in vocal supplication, and was, we believe in this very solemn service remarkably preserved from uttering "words without life and power".

She visited in the love of the Gospel, Salem Quarterly Meeting in 1847 - Sandwich Quarterly Meeting in 1848 - North-Carolina Yearly Meeting in 1849, and in 1851, the Quarterly Meetings of Dover, Falmouth, Vassalboro' and Fairfield, and nearly all the meetings

constituting them. In these several religious engagements, she had the full unity of her friends at home, and we believe that her labors of love were truly acceptable and edifying to those whom she visited. After returning from the last mentioned journey, she remained very much at home - attending with great diligence our religious meetings - visiting the sick and afflicted and administering comfort and consolation.

She was faithful in the discharge of the duties in the Church to which she was called, giving evidence of sound judgment, and sweet Christian charity; and her counsel and influence were very salutary to those towards whom they were extended, and we think, she might truly be denominated a "peace-maker in families and in the Church".

While thus usefully engaged, and also much occupied with the cares devolving upon her in the domestic circle, as a wife and mother, our Heavenly Father saw meet to remove her from us. In the 5th month, 1854, she was attacked with measles, and endured much physical suffering. During her sickness, her mind was unobscured and she was enabled to commit all that were dear to her on earth, unto the safe keeping of her adorable Saviour, and with entire resignation and perfect confidence, to yield herself into his holy hands, trusting, as she humbly expected it, entirely to His mercy, saying that she had nothing beside to sustain her. She manifested much concern for the Bible meeting of which she was a member, enjoining Friends to be faithful in attending it, and praying that it might be kept up to the honor of Truth.

As the solemn hour of her departure drew nigh, having in a previous opportunity taken a final leave of the various members of her family, she was able to express, even after sight had failed her perfect resignation to the will of God - her sense of the forgiveness that had been extended to her, and, at the closing moment, her view of heaven as it was opening before her; and in great quietness, she departed this life the 25th of 5th month, 1854, in the 51st year of her age.

We bear this brief testimony concerning our dear friend that the living may be encouraged to follow her example of simple, humble, child-like dedication to the service of Christ, confessing him before men, that in the end He may confess them also before his Father and the holy angels.

Signed by direction and on behalf of Smithfield Monthly Meeting of Friends, held 10th month 25th 1855.

John Osborne, Clerk.
Mary B. Osborne, Clerk.

A Testimony of Smithfield Monthly Meeting in behalf of our

late beloved friend Lydia L. Kilby, was read at this time, and being united with by this and our Women's meeting, it is directed to be forwarded to the Meeting for Sufferings.

From the minutes of Smithfield Quarterly Meeting held at Smithfield the 8th of 11th month 1855

John E. Fry
Sarah C. Fry } Clerks.

~~Published to here~~

Testimony of Berwick Monthly Meeting concerning our late beloved friend Joseph Brackett deceased.

Our bel. esteemed friend Joseph Brackett was the youngest son of Samuel and Mehitable Brackett. He was born at Berwick 3d mo. 31st 1769. His parents chose to keep this dear son with them to take care of and support them in the decline of life, which service he faithfully performed. In 1795 he was married to Mary Chadbourne. His parents were members of one religious society, and his wife of another. From the diversity of their religious professions, he was often brought into deep exercise of mind. For many years he regularly carried his aged mother to one meeting, his wife to another, and then travelled several miles to sit with Friends.

While yet a young man, outward formalities and ceremonies in religion appeared to him as shadows only, affording no solace to the soul; and, becoming convinced of the principles of Truth as professed by Friends, he was received a member in 1803. From his humble submission to the will of his Heavenly Father, he became a useful member of the Church, performing the various services that devolved upon him, much to the satisfaction of his friends. He was zealously concerned, and laboured with much love and tenderness, for the support of our Christian Testimonies, and for the restoration of those who had deviated from the path of rectitude, and, being of a meek and affectionate disposition, his labors were often crowned with success.

He was benevolent to the poor, who always found a shelter under his roof. His heart and house were open to receive his friends, and for those who were travelling in the service of Truth, he manifested a deep interest and kind sympathy. He was concerned to learn the situation of those who were in limited circumstances, and freely ministered to their necessities. In 1813 his beloved wife was removed by death, leaving him a numerous family of children. In 1818 he was married to our beloved friend Salome E. Boody. In her he found a true helpmeet, and through their united, pious care and watchfulness, a beneficial influence was extended to those around them.

He was faithful and diligent in the attendance of our religious meetings, although living remote from the place of holding them. He was a firm believer in the doctrines of the gospel as professed by Friends, and faithful in the maintenance of our various Christian testimonies. In the year 1845 he was appointed an Elder, which station he acceptably filled for the remainder of his life, manifesting a concern to dwell in that which gives ability to labor successfully in the Church of Christ.

No memoranda have been found indicating the state of his mind; but, although one of few words, and diffident in speaking of himself, yet his daily conduct, example and deportment gave clear evidence of the secret travail of his spirit, and his concern to lay up treasure in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal.

Through his last sickness, which was of short duration, he was wonderfully preserved in meek and quiet composure, often expressing his love for his friends with much tenderness; and having been concerned to do his day's work in the day-time, he quietly passed away 1st mo. 6th, 1852 in the 83d year of his age, leaving the consoling evidence that his end was peace.

Signed by direction, and on behalf, of Berwick Monthly Meeting of Friends, held 17th of 4th mo, 1857.

Benajah Buffum, Clerk.
Hulda S. Buffum, Clerk for the day

At Berwick Monthly Meeting of Friends, held at Dover 23d of 4th month, 1857, the foregoing testimony of Berwick Monthly Meeting concerning our late beloved friend Joseph Brackett was read and approved and the Clerk was directed to forward it to the Meeting for Sufferings, with a copy of this minute, signed on our behalf

Benajah Buffum
Rhoda H. Meader } Clerks.

Testimony of Berwick Monthly Meeting concerning Salome C. Brackett, deceased

Our beloved friend Salome C. Brackett was born at Rochester, N. H. in the year 1785, of parents not in profession with us, who, subsequently, removed with their family to Limington, Maine; where, in early life, she became convinced of the principles of Truth, as professed by Friends. At the early age of fifteen years, she writes: "My mind, was, at times, turned from the follies and vanities of the world, to seek an interest in Jesus, and I was led to reflect on the adorable love and goodness of my Saviour.

"Twas then desires within me rose,
O, that, I now may rightly walk,
May tread the path my Saviour chose,
And meekly bear the Christian yoke."

In the nineteenth year of her age, she was received into membership with Friends; and by submission to the will of her Heavenly Father, she became a useful member and a good example of Christian believers, in word, in faith and in charity; adorning the doctrine of her Saviour by a well ordered life and godly conversation. In childhood she displayed a tender and charitable disposition, joyfully sharing with the needy the comforts which she possessed, and in after life, the same sympathizing feeling continued with her giving freely to the needy, where she believed duty required it.

In 1803 she was married to Joseph Boody of Limington, and although happily united, those bonds were soon severed by the sudden termination of his life, on which occasion she writes: "In the very morning of my days, I partook of this bitter cup - the wormwood and the gall. Many were my sorrowful days and sleepless nights. My poor heart was swelled with grief, yet, in the midst of my trials, the blessed Saviour was nigh. I felt that his banner of love was over me, and his arm was round about to preserve and support me in this deeply trying and solemn event."

In 1818 she was again married to our beloved friend Joseph Brackett, who, like herself, was of a meek, inward retiring disposition. She cheerfully took the charge of his family, performing the responsible duties of a mother, and being of a tender and affectionate disposition, soon gained the love and esteem of his children, as well as that of his aged mother, who was then living with him. She was a kind and affectionate wife, and concerned for the maintenance of right order both in the family and church.

She was no sectarian, though strongly attached to her own

society. She was charitable to all, and enjoyed the company of the pious of other denominations. Her affectionate disposition and conciliatory manners rendered her peculiarly interesting to the youth, in whose welfare she took a deep interest, and realizing that on them must soon devolve the weighty affairs of society, it afforded her great comfort to see them growing up in plainness and sobriety. She was appointed Overseer, when about twenty years of age, by Falmouth Monthly Meeting, where she was received into membership with Friends. This station she also acceptably filled in our Monthly Meeting, for more than twenty years, faithfully performing the various duties that devolved upon her, labouring with offenders in the restoring spirit of love. Her counsel and advice, being accompanied with an evidence of tender regard, was, generally, well received.

For the last ten years of her life, she was an Elder in good esteem, and, often, in much tenderness, had a few words to communicate in our meetings to the satisfaction and encouragement of Friends. She carefully watched over and assisted those who were concerned to walk in the narrow way, very tenderly cautioning against every thing that would have a hurtful tendency, exhorting them to a faithful dedication to the service of her Divine Lord and Master, to dwell low, as at the dear Master's feet — to dig deep and keep upon the Rock Christ Jesus, greatly encouraging them by her own example of devotion, humility and self-denial. She was truly a tender nursing mother in Israel — a peace-maker in families and in the Church. She was diligent in the attendance of our religious meetings to the last week of her life, tho' living at quite a distance. Neither did the infirmities of age, nor the inclemency of weather, often, deter her from the performance of this important duty. Her solid deportment gave evidence of the weightiness of her spirit when assembled with her friends, whom she expressed were ever near and dear to her. Though she kept no regular journal, she sometimes penned down short sketches of her feelings from one of which the following is extracted, dated 7th month, 9th, 1853. "Though I consider my stay here of very short duration, I am favored to feel calm and submissive to the Divine will of my Lord and Master, having through his adorable goodness and tender mercy, found rest to my never-dying soul. I feel to love, adore and praise His worthy name for the watchful care he has had over me from my childhood to the present day; Through all my afflictions, He has been pleased to cast his mantle of love over me, and sustain me with his all-powerful arm." At a later date, she writes: "Dearest Lord, I am here a monument of thy mercy. Thou knowest that I am poor indeed, and feel desirous to be kept low at thy holy footstool." She always entertained very humble

views of her own attainments, in all loulinesses preferring others to herself.

During her last illness, which was a disease of the heart, she was mercifully preserved to bear her sufferings with great patience, and calm resignation to the will of her heavenly Father. On one occasion when friends were being gathered around her bed she gave them much pertinent counsel, adding "I know not why one so unworthy as I should be led thus to exhort you. It is nothing that I have ever done, but by the grace of God I am what I am." At another time she exclaimed: "Come to Jesus! Come to Jesus! 'in whose presence there is fulness of joy.' The spirit and the bride say, come. There is but one true religion, the religion of Jesus Christ. I can direct you to no other." Soon after this she prayed "Dearest Lord, if it be thy will cut short the work in righteousness, nevertheless not my will but thine be done."

She quietly departed this life the 12th of 7th mo. 1855 in the 73d year of her age; and though we sensibly feel, and deeply mourn our loss, we reverently believe it is her eternal gain.

Signed by direction and on behalf of Berwick Monthly Meeting of Friends held 17th of 4th mo. 1857.

Benajah Buffum, Clerk.
Huldah S. Buffum, Clerk for the day.

At Dover Quarterly Meeting of Friends held at Dover the 23d of 4th month, 1857, the foregoing testimony of Berwick Monthly Meeting concerning our late beloved friend Salome C. Brackett was read and approved, and the Clerk was directed to forward it to the Meeting for Sufferings with a copy of this minute, signed on our behalf.

Benajah Buffum }
Phebe H. Meader } Clerks.

Testimony of Salem Monthly Meeting of Friends, in the State of Massachusetts, respecting Estes Newhall, deceased.

He was the son of Daniel and Hannah Newhall, and was born at Lynn, within the limits of this Monthly Meeting on the 9th day of the Ninth Month, 1770. His parents were members of our religious Society, much blamed his father filling acceptably the station of an Elder. Their pious care for the right education of their children, was blessed in their preservation, in a good degree, from the allurring and corrupting influence of the world, its follies and its vices.

The subject of this testimony having lived to an advanced age, and having survived nearly all his contemporaries ~~remaining among us~~, we are not able to speak of his childhood from personal knowledge - but, it is believed that he was circumspect beyond his years, in early life, and from his own testimony it may be stated, that, while young in years, he was made acquainted with the secret touches of Divine love, drawing him into seriousness, with desires to become what his Heavenly Father would have him to be. In early manhood, he is remembered, as a consistent, humble and conscientious friend, evincing love for the Truth, and love to Truth's ambassadors and advocates - his house the home of hospitality, especially to such, and his heart ever open to receive them and bid them God speed.

He was diligent in the attendance of our religious meetings, not allowing worldly cares or concerns to interfere with this duty, and even in old age, he travelled considerable distances from his home to accomplish this object; and his solid deportment, and the seriousness of his demeanor in our meetings, gave evidence of the weightiness of his spirit in his approaches to his Maker in worship; and of his concern that in the ordering of the discipline, all should be done, under the qualifying influence of the Truth.

He was a man of lively temperament, and naturally inclined to make himself agreeable in his intercourse with all with whom he felt in company, yet, through the restraining power of Divine grace, he was preserved from allowing this disposition to betray him into improper levity, or light, or frivolous conversation, so that, although fond of free and cheerful converse, his social intercourse and his speech were in accordance with apostolic exhortation, accompanied with grace, seasoned with salt,

In early life he entered into business requiring careful attention and much thought and industry, and he experienced in his outward affairs, vicissitudes, to which men of business are ever liable. Though these he was careful to maintain his integrity, and to sustain a good reputation which he carried through life as a distinguishing trait of his Christian character.

About the twentieth year of his age, there was a time of increased seriousness and zeal among the members of the Meeting to which he belonged. Some among the lukewarm were stirred up to a greater degree of religious concern for their souls everlasting welfare, and were made partakers of the consolations of the Gospel. On this occasion, our beloved friend was, we apprehend, made to experience a deepening in the divine life, whereby the work of the souls salvation was furthered.

In the year 1799 he was appointed an Overseer in our Monthly Meeting, which office he held by re-appointments from year to year, with a few exceptions, for more than fifty years. He was well qualified for the duties of this station, and faithfully therein, much to the acceptance of Friends, and with so much of Christian love towards those on whom his labours were bestowed, that the esteem of such for him, was rarely lessened, and often increased.

In the forty-second year of his age, he was introduced into the select meeting, by his appointment as an Elder, for which station he evidently was gifted. On this occasion, it is remembered, that deep baptisms were his portion, under a sense of his own inability, without the blessed Savior, to do any thing to promote his cause, and very weighty was his spirit, in entering upon the office to which he was appointed. For the many succeeding years of his life, he fulfilled the important duties of this responsible station with great acceptance, encouraging the weak and feeble ones, and administering caution and advice, as occasion required, to the comfort and edification of the Church, and to his own peace.

He was several times companion to Friends, travelling in the ministry, as well within his own Yearly Meeting as to parts more distant from his home.

Cautious in his movements in the affairs of the Church and prudent in counsel, he was yet firm in his convictions of right, and faithfully bore his testimony thereto, steadily persevering therein, through the various trials, to which Friends have been from time to time subjected.

Our beloved friend was deeply sensible of the fallen condition of man by nature, and of the degeneracy of the human heart, but we would commemorate the goodness and mercy of the Lord, in that we believe he was enabled, through His grace to fight the good fight of faith, and to know an overcoming of his souls enemies.

He was twice married, first to Hepzibah, daughter of Paul Thing, and second to Miriam, daughter of Joseph Philbrick, who survives him. Happy in his domestic relations, his home, which was the house of his birth, and residence through life, was the abode of cheerfulness, and his children have reason to rise up and call him blessed. Of domestic bereavements he had his full share in the removal by death of his first

wife, and of dear friends, and of children, to whom he was doubtless looking for comfort in his old age. In these bereavements, it was instructive to observe his struggle for Christian resignation, and how earnestly he desired to be enabled to say: "The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord."

We have long been accustomed to look to him as to a nursing father in Israel, to whom we could apply for counsel and advice, and whose judgment was laid much in the weight and dispensation of the affairs of the church. His memory is dear, and his removal is indeed a loud exhortation to us, to gird up the loins of our minds, to watch and be sober. He was active even in old age, and within a few days of his final release, he was engaged in company with a minister in visiting the families of Friends in his own meeting.

He was taken sick on 2d day, the 16th of second month last, and continued until 7th day the 28th of that month, when he quietly departed.

In his sickness he was sweet and composed, without anxiety as to the event, and as we reverently believe, was, through the mercy of God in Christ Jesus, joined the host of all generations in singing the song of Moses and the Lamb.

His remains were buried in Friends' burial ground in Lynn, on third day following, after a solemn and favored meeting, held on the occasion, wherein, and at his grave, divers testimonies were borne to the efficacy of that grace by which he was what he was.

Signed on behalf and by direction of Salem Monthly Meeting aforesaid held at Lynn the 14th of 5th month 1857

Stephen A. Chase
Eliza B. Boyce } Clerks.

(At Salem Quarterly Meeting of Friends held at Amesbury, 28th of 5th month 1857 -

A testimony of Salem Monthly Meeting concerning our late beloved friend Estes Newhall, was received and read; and being approved, the Clerk was directed to forward it to our Meeting for Sufferings.

Extracted from the minutes
Samuel Boyce, Clerk.

A Testimony of South Kingstown Monthly Meeting of Friends in the State of Rhode Island Concerning, Mary A. Robinson, deceased.

The consistent walk and lively example of Christian virtue exhibited by our beloved friend, we believe calculated to administer encouragement to those who survive to follow her as she followed her Divine Master. In this belief we are concerned to preserve some account of her life and character.

She was the daughter of Caleb and Anna Attmore of Philadelphia in the State of Pennsylvania and was born in that City on the 7th of 3d Month 1770. Her Parents were members of our religious Society, much respected and beloved and were concerned to bring up their children in a consistent religious life.

Her father died in the year 1793 of yellow fever, to which he was much exposed by his efforts to ameliorate the condition of the sick and dying around him.

At the time of his death, the subject of this testimony was the only survivor of four children of the family, the others having been removed at an early age.

In her youth, she appears to have been of a cheerful disposition, fond of Society, yet retiring such as was of an interesting character, and ardent in the pursuit of knowledge generally, especially such as would be likely to be useful to her in the fulfilment of the duties of life.

As a daughter, she was dutiful and careful to discharge all her obligations, honouring her father and mother according to the Commandment; and it was an interesting trait in her character, which continued through life, that she cautiously observed the feelings of others under all circumstances, and evinced an invariable respect for them, even of the most humble.

In the year 1797 she was united in marriage with our late friend James Robinson, and resided in Philadelphia for the succeeding seven years, when they removed to South Kingstown, the place of her husbands former residence, and within the limits of our Monthly Meeting. Here she continued to reside during the life time of her husband, who deceased in the Eleventh Month 1841. and for a part of each year for several years later. It was during this time that she was known, respected and beloved by the members of our Monthly Meeting. Her mind was of an enlarged, improved

and well cultivated order, well stored with useful knowledge, which made her an interesting Companion; and under the sanctifying influence of Divine Grace she was extensively useful in the affairs of the Church, in which service she was concerned to be found faithful to every trust.

By her kind and conciliatory manners, she won the affection and esteem of her friends and neighbours, and of all who were privileged with her acquaintance.

To the young she was particularly attractive, and over them as well as those of riper years, she was enabled to exert an influence for good in a wide circle. In addition to the other services of a religious character by the appointment of the meetings to which she belonged, she for many years filled in a truly acceptable manner the office of an Elder. Judicious, firm, yet kind and sympathising, her labors were eminently acceptable and useful, being truly a nursing mother in the Church.

She loved the truth and delighted in its prosperity, and was willing to share in the labors and burthens necessary for its advancement.

Careful to maintain all our testimonies, she was desirous they might be faithfully sustained by all our members.

She manifested the efficacy of her doctrines, which were those of the gospel, in life and conversation; and her example was forcible preaching to others.

In feeble health for many years she exerted herself, in a very exemplary manner, to attend all her religious meetings, often under much bodily infirmity. In her family circle, her example and Christian care in the judicious training of her Children, and the love and affection of her character found a congenial field for their exercise; and here we may say she exhibited the virtues of a truly christian mother, and her children may indeed rise up and call her blessed.

The infirmities of age, and her increasing weakness, induced her to reside in the family of her only daughter in Salem, Massachusetts, where she spent the few last years of her life. As her bodily powers declined, faith and filial trust in her Heavenly Father and protector did not forsake her. In the confinement and comparative seclusion of her sick chamber, [illegible]

she continued to exhibit that patient continuance in well doing which had adorned her life, and have shone for the the benevolence of her character, preferring others before herself, and that desire to be useful which had always been conspicuous.

Her own sufferings did not make her insensible to those of others. From her Couch of sickness her mind reached after objects of benevolence, and the cause which she knew not she searched out, and freely dispensed of her means to relieve their necessities, administering to each as in her judgment their circumstances required.

None so humble or so low as to be overlooked by her. and the hand that benefited was careful not to wound. Her motives for beneficence, sprung from a high and pure source. The desire to do right appeared the ruling sentiment of her life, and to do good was esteemed by her the christians privilege.

It was instructive to observe her serenity and sweetness during this period of her gradual decay, having a cheerful look and word for all who visited her.

For many months previous to her decease, she was the subject of a disease, peculiarly trying to the nervous system, and calculated to produce great nervous irritability. Yet such was the power which, through grace, she had been enabled to acquire over the weaknesses of the body, that her own sufferings did not divert her mind from her interests for others, and her sympathy with and feeling for their sufferings and privations.

A distant relative writing to her children, after her decease, very truly observed— "Among many others, here was one cause of my love, I may say of my veneration for your mother, her sickness never made her selfish; my little children were always viewed as welcome to her sick room as their parents. Nor poor neighbour was remembered by her, while the distant relative though far away was sure to receive some kind token of her thoughtfulness"

Her fondness for instructive reading continued with her, and books of a religious character were a solace to her in many of her hours of weakness and infirmity. But above all books she loved the Holy Scriptures, a copy of which, or of the New Testament, she always kept in her sick chamber within her reach or lying on her table; that, as she had known them from a child, so we believe she experienced them to be able to make wise unto salvation through faith

which is in Christ Jesus. In this manner she passed the
few last years of her earthly pilgrimage, gradually growing
weaker in body, while the inner man was renewed day
by day. She rarely conversed upon her own religious
hopes and prospects, and entertained a very humble
view of herself, but during her last illness she informed
her children that she thought that she should
shortly leave them, and that she saw nothing in her way,
having faith in the mercies of God in Christ Jesus.

She passed away without sigh or groan on the 14th
day of the second Month 1856 and having served her own
generation, by the will of God, fell asleep, to enter, as
we reverently believe, by the mercies of God in Christ
Jesus, her Saviour, the blissful abodes of the saved
of the Lord, there to receive the rewards of the righteous.

Her remains were interred on the 20th of the same
Month, in the family burying ground in South Kingstown.

Signed on behalf and by direction of South Kingstown
Monthly Meeting of Friends held at South Kingstown
25th of 4th Mo. 1859

by Abel F Collins Clerk
Marcus G. Babcock assistant Clerk

At Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting of Friends
held at East Greenwich 5th Month 5 1859.

A testimony of South Kingston Monthly Meeting
Concerning our late beloved Friend Mary A Robinson
was at this time read and approved; and the Clerks
were directed to endorse thereon a minute to this effect
and forward to the meeting for sufferings

Signed on behalf of the Meeting

Gilbert Congdon
Mary A. Smith } Clerks

A Testimony of South Kingstown Monthly Meeting of Friends
Concerning Mary Collins, deceased,

She was the daughter of Thomas and Mary Wilbur of Hopkinton in the State of Rhode Island, and was born 9th of 11th Month 1772. Her Parents were devoted members of the Society of Friends, and were deeply concerned to educate their children in the truth. Her religious training was blessed to preparing her in Early life to submit to Divine Requirings.

When about Eighteen years of age, she was united in Marriage to Abel Collins of North Stonington, Connecticut, to whom she was a most affectionate and endeared Companion through his life.

While young she submitted to the restraining influence of Heavenly love manifested in the heart, and yielded herself to the way of the Cross of Christ. She chose the blessed Saviour for her Counsellor, Leader and Guide. And under the sanctifying influence of Divine Grace was made meet for the Masters use, and prepared to sustain the various offices in the Church to which she was called, to the honor of Truth and the Comfort and instruction of many of its members. For many years of her life she was under the appointment of overseer of Society, an office which she was eminently qualified to fill, and she labored, when occasion required, with meekness and diligence to reclaim the wanderer, restore that which was out of the way, and encourage the weak and halting to an increased Concern in the work of their souls Salvation. She was appointed to the Station of an Elder (by South Kingstown Monthly Meeting of Friends, of which she was an Esteemed and devoted member) in Early life, and Continued in that Station the remainder of her days — more than half a Century.

She exercised the appointment to the Comfort of her friends; when she deemed it her duty, she encouraged the timid and fearful, and discouraged that which was not of the right anointing. Her house and heart were ever open to the servants of the Lord, and she delighted in staying up the hands of them, and in giving the Cup of water in the name of a disciple — and she freely imparted Sympathy and aid to the suffering and afflicted of their flock.

She was concerned to sustain the various testimonies of the Society by example and precept, and in true Christian gravity to adorn the doctrine of God, her Saviour, in her daily walk amongst men.

The doctrines of the Gospel as they have always been

maintained by the Society of Friends were ever dear to her, and she faithfully adhered to them

Though some of her trials were exceedingly exercising to her sensitive mind, yet under circumstances of a peculiarly trying character, she preferred what she conscientiously believed to be the truth to every other consideration.

She greatly desired that our members might feel the importance of the duty of attending our religious meetings and of diligence in its performance, and her example herein was very instructive, and worthy of imitation, Especially under many difficulties and discouragements, particularly in the latter years of her life, when her health was very poor. She has many times been heard to say, that while in attendance of religious meetings it seemed as though all her pain and suffering was removed. She often labored in love and tenderness with the younger members of Society, to promote faithfulness in the maintainance of our testimonies in regard to plainness of dress and language

She had a large family of children and manifested a religious concern to bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. She survived her husband and several of her children, and though the severing of these very tender ties was deeply trying to her, yet she viewed it as from the hand of the Lord and meekly bowed to the stroke.

She was a firm believer in the gift of the Holy Spirit, manifested in the heart, as a guide into all truth, and strove to act under its influence in her religious movements

Though possessed of many talents, and having had deep religious experience, yet she had a very humble view of her attainments and always seemed to prefer others to herself. She was enabled by Grace to perform her duties religious, relative and social, with fidelity, through a long and eventful life.

Possessing a sound and discriminating judgment, and submitting to the baptism of Christ, she was made very useful in administering the discipline of the Society— and some times in meetings for Worship, she spoke by way of testimony to the satisfaction of friends

Thus having labored, according to the ability received, through a long life, to promote the good of the Militant Church, she is doubtless transplanted to the Church triumphant in Heaven, Ever to dwell in peace with the Lord.

Though she had expressed her Entire faith and confidence in her Redeemer, and her willingness to be removed,

yet she thought it a fearful, solemn change to pass through the valley of the shadow of death - but it was often impressed on her mind near the close of her life "Fear no Evil, I will be with thee" which promise we believe was verified.

A short time before she ceased to breath, she seemed to fall into a quiet sleep, from which she did not entirely awake, and her spirit peacefully passed away.

She died on the morning of the 20th of the second month 1858 aged 85 years 3 mos 11 days and was interred the 24th of the same month in Friends burying ground in Hopkinton R.I. after a large and solemn meeting of Friends and others. Blessed are the dead that die in the Lord, yea saith the Spirit, for they rest from their labors, and their works do follow them.

Signed on behalf and by direction of the aforesaid Monthly Meeting of Friends, held at Westerly the 28th of 3d month 1859.

by

Abel F Collins Clerk
Mary L Collins Clerk

At Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting, held at East-Greenwich 5 mo 5th 1859—

A testimony of South Kingston Monthly Meeting Concerning our late beloved friend Mary A Collins was at this time Read and approved; and the Clerks were directed to endorse thereon a minute to this Effect, and forward it to our Meeting for Sufferings

Signed on behalf of the Meeting

Gilbert Congdon
Mary A. Smith } Clerks

A Testimony of New Bedford Monthly Meeting concerning our beloved friend Hannah J. Taber, deceased

Our beloved friend Hannah J. Taber, the subject of this memorial, was the daughter of David and Anna Sherman, and was born in Dartmouth the 25th of 12th Month 1800. Subsequent to the death of her father, which occurred during her childhood, she removed with her mother to New Bedford, where she became an inmate in the family of a beloved relative (our late friend Abraham Sherman Jr.) under whose paternal guidance she was carefully educated, and to whom, on his becoming a member of her family shortly after her marriage, she, in her turn, ministered for the remainder of his life: and when near the close of his earthly pilgrimage he was bowed with weakness and infirmity, she devoted herself with filial care and tenderness to smooth his declining years, and finally witnessed the ingathering of that faithful servant, "as a shock of corn cometh in in his season".

In the nineteenth year of her age she was married to our friend William C. Taber, and was for many years closely occupied with the care of a large family, to whom she devoted herself with assiduous attention, watching over them as those of whom she must give an account; yet notwithstanding these cares and the delicacy of her health, she did not fail to pursue a quiet cheerfulness.

Recognizing in all the affairs of life the love and care of her Heavenly Father, she rested on him with meek submission, serenely trusting, that whether trial and disappointment, or joy and comfort were dispensed, all would be well in His divine ordering.

For several years she was confined much at home by ill health, and was prevented from mingling with her friends in their religious meetings: yet, although deeply feeling the privation, she was enabled we believe profitably to employ the time, and the watchful care bestowed upon her children was greatly blessed. But her own family by no means engrossed her exclusive attention; her hand was ever ready to relieve the necessities of the poor, and her heart to sympathize with the afflicted, and many can testify to the "words fitly spoken" or conveyed in an affectionate note, which had truly a sweet and encouraging influence. The charity which thinketh no evil was especially

manifested in the kindly feeling with which she sought to excuse the failings of others, never allowing them to be brought forward as subjects of Conversation.

She possessed a strong and clear intellect, and her judgment was sound and discriminating, and as improved health opened the way for more extended usefulness, these qualities, together with her loving spirit, rendered her a useful overseer, which office she filled with acceptance for several years.

The work of preparation having been in progress, she felt constrained to speak unto others of the loving kindness of the Lord. Her first appearance as a minister was in the Summer of 1854 while companion to a friend on a visit to Canada, and her gift was acknowledged by her friends in the Seventh Month 1857.

Although her communications were generally brief, they were attended with life and power, and ministered grace to the hearers. In humble imitation of the Spirit of her Divine Master, self seemed with her of no reputation, all her desire appeared to be that His name alone might be exalted, and the creature humbled in the dust.

For some years her hearing had been much impaired, and at this period of her life, she was almost totally deprived of the privilege of hearing what was passing in meeting.

But in few things was the exercise of her simple faith more clearly shown, or more deeply instructive or edifying to her friends, than in the harmony of her exercise with that of other faithful servants, frequently evinced by the timely offering of the gift in a few words, pointedly bearing upon the subject under consideration, and giving unmistakable evidence of the source whence the ability was derived.

The following extracts are taken from some memoranda left by her.

"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart, and lean not to thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct thy paths; Oh, how have I desired to know this trust in God, to acknowledge him in all my ways; but we are so prone to lean to our own understanding, so often plan and contrive to suit our own views, we greatly mar the operation of His Spirit in our hearts. May I endeavor more earnestly to press forward, and seek for His Holy and blessed guidance, remembering the encouraging language of the prophet. "The Lord is good, a stronghold in the day of—

trouble, and He knoweth them that trust in Him."

"Of what weight has this declaration appeared in my mind, "Betrothed in righteousness and in judgment, and in loving kindness and in mercies; and woo in faithfulness." Truly refined as silver and tried as gold, may we walk worthy the vocation wherewith we are called, faithful to the end, as humble and dedicated followers of a crucified and risen Lord - willing to acknowledge him before men, to take up our daily cross and follow Him, and accept the gracious invitation, "Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden; take my yoke upon you and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart; and ye shall find rest unto your souls."

"Oh! will Thou who knowest me altogether as I am, be pleased to hear the prayer of my soul this evening, and through the mediation of a Savior's love, grant that my faith fail not? Be pleased, dearest Father, to enable me to be willing to give all up to Thee, to commit myself to Thee, to trust in Thy mighty Power, and to realize that Thou still art able to give strength to overcome, and put to flight the enemies of my soul's peace. May we be favoured to feel that Thou, Lord, art nigh unto them that are of a broken heart, and savest such as be of a contrite spirit. And although bowed down and broken and feeling desolate and alone, will Thou in thy everlasting mercy be pleased, to lead, to guide, to counsel and direct my steps in the way Thou wouldst have me to go."

In the Spring of 1856 she was called to endure a close trial, in the removal by death of her eldest daughter, Elizabeth J. King. In writing to an absent member of the family she says: "In looking back upon our visit to Baltimore, I consider it cause of humble gratitude, that while we were called there upon such a trying occasion, we were favoured to feel the overshadowing Power of Divine Goodness to be near to bear up and support, and an undoubted evidence that the dispensation was in the ordering of that Wisdom which cannot err. May the name of the Lord be magnified, and with one accord may we be willing to say "Thy will be done." I desire that the teaching lesson may not be lost; but that we may take heed to the injunction, 'Be ye also ready; for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh.'"

A short time before her decease she more than once remarked to a friend, that she believed her time was short; and truly the diligence and alacrity which accompanied her faithful obedience to apprehended duty, was a lesson of deep instruction to her friends.

When attacked by the illness which terminated her valuable and useful life, she was absent from home, in company with a ministering friend, on a visit to some adjacent meetings. She was however favoured to reach her own abode, but the disease made rapid progress, and by its violence prevented much expression, and on the 6th day of the 9th Month 1858 her purified spirit was released from its earthly tenement prepared we reverently believe for an abundant entrance "into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."

Her remains were interred in Friends' Burial ground at New Bedford, after a solemn meeting, in which tes= =timonies were borne by several concerned friends to the all= sufficiency of that grace by which she had been enabled faithfully to walk in conformity with the manifested will of her divine Master, and to finish her course in peace.

Signed on behalf of New Bedford Monthly Meeting of Friends held 3d Month 24th 1859

Charles R Tucker
Abram F Tucker } Clerks

At Sandwich Quarterly Meeting of Friends held at New Bedford 4th Month 7 1859. The foregoing testimony of New Bedford Monthly Meeting respecting our late beloved friend Hannah T. Taber was read and approved, and was directed to be laid before the Meeting for Sufferings

Wm Taber
Sarah H Anthony } Clerks

Our Beloved Friend. Rachel W. Jones, the subject of the following memoir, was the daughter of Benjamin and Phebe North, and was born on the Island of Nantucket the 21st of 3d Month 1792.

Her parents were careful to bring up their children in the fear of the Lord, and to restrain them from the Evil influences so prevalent in the world, a work which in no small degree prepared her for the operation of that the holy Spirit by which, through faith in her Redeemer, she experienced a new birth unto holiness, and was eminently qualified for the faithful discharge of those services subsequently committed to her trust.

She was by nature of an unusually lively disposition, and for a while followed the fashions incident to those of her years, mingling freely with the gay and joyous; but preserved at the same time a remarkable sense of decorum, respect of age, and reverence for piety.

In 1797 her parents removed and settled within the limits of Vassalboro Monthly Meeting. The country being new at that time, she was mostly deprived of the means of a School education, the need of which she greatly felt, and knowing its value by the privation, she was ever after a warm friend to the cause, laboring for the support of schools and encouraging the young in the improvement of their precious time & privileges.

By the marriage of her elder sisters, the care of an invalid mother came upon her when quite young, and being by the benevolence of her heart peculiarly fitted for the attendance of the sick, she was a great comfort to her, and often spoke, after her mother was gone, of the satisfaction it afforded her, that she had been assiduous in her attention to her while living.

In 1816 she was married to our friend Stephen Jones and came to reside in this Monthly Meeting.

In Early life, when she hardly realized that the hand of the Lord was upon her, she appears to have been visited by the Holy Spirit and under the tendering influence thereof often melted into contrition before Him, with fervent desires that he would be to her as the "refiner with fire" and as the "fuller with soap" that her heart might be cleansed, and become a fit temple for His holy presence to dwell in.

Cultivating these seasons of favour she early became a disciple in the School of Christ, and pressed to take an active part in the affairs of the Church.

In 1827 she was appointed to the station of an Elder, which she filled to the satisfaction of friends.

Possessing a sound judgment, and a large Christian experience, she was able to offer a word of counsel, advice and encouragement to those who stood in need.

She was punctual in the attendance of all our Religious Meetings, taking her family with her when practicable, not suffering her temporal affairs to interfere with the interests of her Soul; believing that a blessing would rest upon those who, in sincerity and reverent devotion thus present themselves before the Lord.

She several times accompanied Friends travelling in the ministry, and occasionally offered a few words to the relief of her mind.

Her early appearances in the line of the ministry were with much brokenness of spirit, and we believe that it was under a sense of unworthiness, and the great necessity laid upon her that she was made willing to declare what the Lord had done for her, and to proclaim his unbounded mercy to a fallen race.

Her gift in the ministry was acknowledged in the 2nd Month 1843. After this in the exercise of it, she was engaged to travel considerably from home, visiting Meetings and families; and especially the sick and afflicted, for which service her meekness and Christian sympathy rendered her truly welcome.

Her first visit in this capacity was to her native Island in the summer of 1844. And although a time of peculiar trial, she was favoured to pass through it, to the praise of her master.

She visited at different times nearly all the Meetings in this Yearly Meeting, and some of them several times; manifesting therein such fervor of devotion, and earnestness of spirit, as showed that her heart was engaged in the work.

With an humbling sense of her unfitness of herself for the sacred Calling, she trusted for support and direction to Him who putteth forth and goeth before. Being clothed with a right qualification, her ministry was sound and edifying, comforting to the afflicted, strengthening to the weak, encouraging to the faithful, and a warning to the wayward and thoughtless.

Her exemplary life, and earnest appeals loudly call upon her survivors to follow her as she followed Christ, the object of her faith, and the author of her salvation; and it is under a realizing sense of her upright walk, and the great loss we have sustained in her removal from works to rewards, that we are constrained to bear a testimony to the excellency of that grace which qualified her for the work of the Lord.

Numerous are the testimonials that have been borne to the animating influence, and encouragement of her instrumentality

When most favoured, she was careful to take none of the glory to herself, often saying "I am poor and needy, and all my own righteousness is as filthy rags", and in her supplications, not unto us O Lord, not unto us, but unto thy name be the glory, to whom alone it is due.

Among her own neighbours, by whom she was most affectionately beloved, her mild Christian character shone with peculiar brightness, and many were constrained through her Example to enquire the way to Zion with desires to follow the Redeemer in the obedience of Faith.

In the Summer of 1850 she was engaged in visiting the Meetings, and some of the families in the Western part of this Yearly Meeting

From a Memorandum kept by her, it appears to have been a time of great refreshing — in which, as she says, "The Truth reigned over all, to the humbling of our hearts — it seemed as if the mantle of Ancient Goodness was spread over us, and some of our hearts were newly united, and we made to rejoice together, in that we were enabled again to meet on the shores of time, under a renewed sense of the great goodness of the Heavenly Father's love to us unworthy Creatures."

In reviewing this visit she says "Our hearts were filled with joy and praises to His great Name, who hath preserved us through all our trials, and brought us safe to our family and friends. May the glory of the Lord continue to shine forth, till the Mountain of the Lord's house be Established in the top of the Mountains and all Men flow unto it.

She spent the winter of 1855–6 in visiting Meetings and families, in several Quarterly Meetings within the limits of New York Yearly Meeting; producing on her return, Satisfactory evidences that her labors among

them were edifying and encouraging.

This was the last visit she ever performed in gospel love to her friends.

Her mind soon after her return was impressed with the conviction, that her days work was about done, that her stay here would be brief.

Her time was now mostly occupied in setting her house in order, visiting her Children and Relatives, imparting Counsel and encouragement, and when taken unwell, she expressed her belief that it would be her last sickness.

Although her sufferings, during her illness, were severe, continuing fourteen days, no murmur or complaint was heard, but on the contrary she bore all her sufferings with patient resignation.

At one time, her family and some of her neighbours being present, she said, "Weep not for me dear Children, but weep for yourselves, prepare for death and follow me: We must all try the cold and silent grave: you have been good children to me: live in love as you have done, that you may be a happy family; be kind to your dear father, Comfort him all you can, he will be very lonely when I am gone. This is a solemn warning to you all; a few days since and I was in health, now you are gathered around my bed, beholding me on the verge of the grave; when the Lord calls we must all go to leave all things here below; it is a solemn thing to die; but I am resigned to the will of God. I am very peaceful and calm: full my Saviour to be near; I am most gone. — and it will be a happy change."

She appeared in Vocal Supplication thus "Heavenly Father, be pleased to be near my dear family in this afflictive dispensation, enable them to draw humbly near to thee dearest Father. — I Commend them to thy Holy Care and keeping; mayst thou watch over them, protect them all; enable them to do thy Holy will: lead them and guide them in the way thou would'st have them go. — Be with thy people every where, Comfort and sustain them, be with me through the valley of death, and finally receive me into thy kingdom — the lowest seat in heaven is all I ask."

She bore her distressing sickness and the scene of parting with her friends with unusual fortitude and

composure, sweetly unmoved.

Having been faithful to the manifestations of Divine Grace while favoured with strength, she now felt the arm of her dear Redeemer to be underneath when her nature was wasting away, and in Confiding hope looked forward to a happy immortality beyond the tomb; and we believe that, through the mercy of God, in Christ Jesus, she has entered into the joy of her Lord.

She departed this life the 14th day of 10th Month 1857 aged 65 years 6 Months and 22 days, and was buried in Friends burying ground in China the 16th of the same, after a Solemn and memorable Meeting held on the occasion.

She was a pattern of meekness, humility and devotion — a faithful wife — an affectionate mother, — a kind neighbour, — beloved by all who knew her; her example was instructive, her memory is precious and her loss deeply felt by her survivors.

Signed by direction and on behalf of China Monthly Meeting of Friends held 17th of 5th Month 1859.

Alfred H Jones
Mary C. Jones
} Clerks

The foregoing Memorial from China Monthly Meeting, Concerning our late beloved friend Rachel W. Jones was read in this Meeting, and being satisfactory, the Clerk was directed to endorse with a Copy of this minute and forward to the Meeting for Sufferings.

From the Minutes of Vassalboro Quarterly Meeting of Friends, held at East Vassalboro 5th Month 27. 1859

Joseph H. Cole
Rachel B. Nichols
} Clerks

Testimony of Greenwich Monthly Meeting Concerning Rowland Greene.

The memory of our late beloved friend is precious to us and the example of his life instructive - and we believe it right to bear our testimony to the excellence and practical efficacy of that Grace by which he was preserved through his pilgrimage on Earth - and enabled to declare the unsearchable riches of Christ and to adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour.

He was the Son of Thomas and Sarah Greene, neither of them members of the Society of Friends, and was born at Warwick Rhode Island the 24th of the 11th Month 1770. His father was a sea faring man and much from home - and his early training devolved principally upon his mother which duty she appears to have discharged with faithfulness. At the age of 14 years he was placed with his maternal uncle Doctor Robert Hicks in order to receive an education with a view eventually to study the medical profession under his care - and although this uncle was not a member of any Religious Society yet his principles appear to have been much in accordance with those professed by us, and the influence of his mother also (who was a decendant of Friends) tended to turn his youthful mind towards that path in which he subsequently so faithfully walked giving him thus early in life (as he Expressed it) an impression that "Something like Gravity and Solemnity was attached to our profession". He continued in his present situation about three years, when his uncle was removed by death and he afterwards went to reside with Doct Caleb Fiske of Scituate, with whom he pursued his Medical Studies. In written memoranda which our beloved friend has left he speaks of the temptations to which he was subjected during the period after leaving his parents, but records that he was graciously watched over and mercifully preserved from the snares of the tempter by the unslumbering Shepherd of Israel, whom Name he desires to praise and magnify.

In the 3d Month 1791 he was married to our late dear friend Susanna Greene daughter daughter of Elisha and Ruth Harris - beloved Elders belonging to this Monthly Meeting - but their daughter Susanna who was born previously to their uniting with Friends, was not in membership with us, but subsequently, from Convincement, became a valuable member and was appointed to the Station of an Elder.

After his marriage and settlement in Cranston we find the following record in his diary - "Being now more in the way of associating with Friends and of occasionally attending their meetings and reading their writings, that infant like prediction, like a little leven given to my mind through the instrumentality of my dear mother, was now awakened and my mind engaged to enquire into religious principles and the means of Salvation - and concerned for an upright walking in the fear of the Lord. And I felt an additional responsibility resting upon me as a husband - a father and head of a family - and was desirous of always exhibiting to them an example worthy of following, and a way that should lead to [illegible]".

In 1793. he removed to reside at Scituate, about five miles from Friends Meeting House in Foster. This Meeting, he records, he very constantly attended and adds - "After much deep exercise of mind in relation to my religious progress, I believed it to be my duty to request the Care of Friends as a member of their religious body. And on the 5th of the 1st month 1795 I was received a member of Greenwich Monthly Meeting." After being received a member in the Society I felt engaged to attend (not only meetings for worship) but all meetings for business from the Preparative to the Yearly Meeting - endeavouring to make my secular concerns always subservient to my religious duty - and kept a memorandum of the attendance of those meetings - And when it seemed impracticable or unsuitable upon principles of humanity relating to my professional Calling I noted the reason for such omission - and when I found the excuse for non-attendance would not bear a strict investigation my effort to accomplish the object was increased, feeling unwilling to record an excuse that was not valid - and I very generally attended the meetings.

Not long after our beloved friend was united in membership with us, he believed it to be his duty to speak in our religious meetings in the way of Ministry, but for several years his offering were not frequent and were limited to few words, but evidently seasoned with grace - And abiding under this influence he gave full evidence that his Divine Master had granted unto him a gift in the Ministry which was acknowledged

by Friends and he was recorded a minister in the year 1803.

He deeply felt the weightiness of the step thus taken by Friends and Shrunk, as we trust all do who realize their own unworthiness, from the increased responsibility resting on those who are recognized as ministers and Elders in the Church.

While much depressed under a sense of his own unworthiness and deeply feeling his inability of himself to do any good thing he records that he was much comforted by the words of the Psalmist — "He raiseth up the poor out of the dust, and lifteth the needy out of the dunghill; that he may set him with Princes even with the Princes of his people" — and also with the passages — "The Lord maketh the poor and maketh the rich — He bringeth low and lifteth up — He raiseth up the poor out of the dust and lifteth up the beggar from the dunghill to set them among Princes and to make them inherit the throne of Glory: for the pillars of the Earth are the Lords, and he hath set the world upon them — He will keep the feet of his Saints and the wicked shall be silent in darkness: for by strength shall no man prevail."

These words tended to comfort him and his faith was increased "that the Lord still most graciously regardeth the lowly and can out of weakness ordain strength and out of the mouths of babes and sucklings bring forth praise".

Our friend was now considerably occupied with professional duties being a "beloved physician", always acceptable by the bed side of the sick and distressed — ministering not only to their physical relief — but entering into their spiritual necessities and pointing them to the great Physician to heal them of all their diseases — but he felt that his paramount duty was to occupy faithfully the gift committed to him — to take heed unto the ministry that he had received, to fulfil it — and in the discharge of this high duty he often left his home to preach the Gospel to his fellow men. This necessarily interrupted his professional practice.

In the year 1814 he removed with his family, consisting then of his wife and ten children, to Plainfield, Connecticut. A meeting under the care of a Committee was at this time held at that place once a month, but soon after the removal of our dear friend a meeting house was built and meetings were held regularly for worship both on first days and in the middle of the week and a Preparative meeting was established — several members

being added by removals and by Convincement. Here our friend established a Boarding School, accomodated in his ample House, over which he exercised a most paternal Control, the principal instruction being given by his Son, our late beloved friend Benjamin Greene.

Many resorted to this School from various parts of the Country and not a few have been witness to the benefits they secured, while acquiring sound learning through the Son, from the pious, watchful and endearing Care of the devoted father

In later years he again removed and returned to reside in Cranston where he at first had Commenced house keeping — and here in great tranquility he passed the evening of his days.

As we have before intimated Rowland Greene was much occupied during his long life in the discharge of his apprehended duty as a Minister of the Gospel of Christ, visiting in believing the Meetings of Friends generally in the different Yearly Meetings on this Continent, and many of them more than once — and appointing many meetings among those not in religious profession with us.

His ministry was sound and Edifying — not running into words without life — but evincing his Care to observe the restraining as well as the Constraining power of Truth — and we have abundant Evidence that his visits of love were truly welcome to the Churches — Of them visits and of the dealings of the Lord with him he made extensive Memoranda from which much that is truly instructing and instructive might be selected, but it may not be as propriately introduced in to the brief Testimony Concerning him now borne by this Meeting.

Of our dear friend it may be justly said that he was remarkable for his upright and dedicated walk among men — always manifesting firmness with meekness — dignity with humility and Cheerfulness without levity. The sweetness of his spirit was felt by all who knew him and in his Conversation he gave evidence that he had been with Jesus.

To him in no common degree were the words applicable "an Israelite indeed in whom there is no guile". Amid all the trials through which our beloved Society has passed during his long connection

with it he never wavered – but was found at the post of duty – always supporting the Discipline and order of Truth – Condemning Error from whomsoever it might proceed or in whatever way manifested. We deeply feel the loss the Church has sustained in his removal from us – We feel that we are deprived of a wise Counsellor to whom we had been wont to turn – of a firm and honored friend upon whom we had been accustomed to lean – As he had been through life a faithful and loving Disciple – So he continued even after his natural forces were much reduced, to manifest his devotion and love to the Saviour – his concern and regard for his fellow man – and having fought a good fight – having kept the faith and finished his course, a crown of Righteousness, we reverently believe, was prepared by the Lord, the Righteous judge, to be given him in that day.

He departed this life the 19th of 8th Month 1859. aged 88 years 8 Months and twenty five Days and was interred in Friends burying ground at Cranston after a Solemn Meeting, numerously attended, held in the meeting house on the occasion.

"Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them".

Signed in and on behalf of Greenwich Monthly Meeting of Friends held at Coventry 4th Mo 2d. 1860.

Solomon R Knowles
Bethiah D Parker } Clerks

At Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting of Friends held at East Greenwich the 3d of 5th Month 1860.

A Testimony concerning our late beloved friend Rowland Greene from Greenwich Monthly Meeting was presented at this time, and being read and approved was directed to be forwarded to the Meeting for sufferings.

Taken from the minutes of the Meeting

Gilbert Congdon
Mary A Smith } Clerks

P

John Meader

Testimony of Providence Monthly Meeting of Friends, concerning John Meader.

John Meader was the son of Joseph and Elizabeth Meader, and was born at Rochester, New-Hampshire, the 3d of 11th month 1797. His parents were engaged to train up their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord; and we have cause to believe that their parental care was blessed to the subject of this memorial.

In early life he gave evidence that he was under the forming hand of the great Head of the Church, for usefulness therein, and at the age of eighteen years, he yielded to the requirement of apprehended duty and uttered a few words in a public meeting for worship.

In the year 1819, he was married to our friend Elizabeth Taber, daughter of our late ancient and beloved friends, Joseph and Huldah Haag. In the year 1824, the gift of our dear friend was acknowledged, and he was recorded a Minister by Sandwich Monthly Meeting of Friends. He very early saw that it was for him to yield to the call of his Divine Master, in going from place to place to declare His unsearchable riches, and in the exercise of living faith, he put his trust in the Lord, that He would make his way and provide all things needful for him while engaged in His service; and in the later years of his life, he often testified that in this trust and confidence he had been sustained, and had lacked nothing. During the four following years, after being recorded a Minister, he several times received minutes of his meeting liberating him for religious service within the limits of neighboring Quarterly Meetings; which visits appear to have been made to

the will and grace of his own mind; and to the satisfaction and comfort of his friends.

In the year 1829, he believed it his duty to open to his Monthly and Quarterly Meetings a prospect of extensive religious service within the limits of New York, Philadelphia, Ohio, Indiana, and some portions of Baltimore Yearly Meeting, in which engagement his beloved wife felt herself called upon to participate. This concern was the more weighty and formidable, from the fact that it was a period when a fearful schism was progressing in all the different Yearly Meetings within which he was concerned to travel; but having received the full unity and encouragement of friends, he arranged his temporal concerns and with his wife, set out upon his journey. Many and deep were his trials and baptisms, as expressed in memoranda which he kept during this engagement, which occupied more than two years; and abundant are the testimonials that have been borne, both written and verbal, to the seasonable and efficient labors of our dear friend, under the qualifying and strengthening hand of Israel's adorable Shepherd. This was the period in the history of our Society, when many, bearing the name of Friends, were ready to deny the Lord that bought them, or in part only to acknowledge Him as the Redeemer and Saviour of a fallen world. But it was eminently the service of our beloved brother to preach Him in His fulness; and through His grace he was enabled to do so in demonstration of the Spirit and of power. Thus was he, at this time of severe trial, an instrument in the Lord's hand in turning some from darkness to light; in confirming and establishing others, who were doubting or fearful; and of comforting and strengthening many who were bearing heavy burdens in the heat of the day. After returning from this visit in 1831, he resided within the limits of Berwick and Dover Monthly Meetings, often travelling with the approbation of Friends, in the service of Truth, until the spring of 1837, when he removed to live

within the limits of Providence Monthly Meeting, where he continued afterwards to reside; and it is especially to his devoted life and gospel labors, during this period, that we are engaged to bear our testimony, and to commemorate the sanctifying and strengthening power of that Grace, which so operated in him as to enable him skillfully to divide the word, and to preach with power, the Gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Having given himself to the service of his Divine Master, he cheerfully yielded to His requirements; and, in the obedience of faith, again and again left his home to discharge his religious duty to his fellow men.

In the 10th month 1841, he laid before his friends a concern, which for several years had rested upon his mind, to visit in Gospel love, most of the tribes of Indians which have removed west of the Mississippi; and to hold religious meetings among them, to visit those Friends who are situated within the limits of what was then the Territory of Iowa, to attend the Yearly Meeting of Indiana, and most of the Quarterly, and some of the other meetings belonging thereto; and also for religious service within the limits of this Yearly Meeting; appointing Meetings among Friends and others. This weighty engagement of our dear friend, received the full unity of the Monthly and Quarterly Meetings, and he was liberated to pursue his prospect. He soon after left home, proceeding first to Washington, where he received documents from those officers of the Federal Government to whom the interest of the Indians is specially confided; commending him to the attention and aid of those in authority with whom he might meet.

In the 10th month 1842, he returned the certificate granted him, with the information that he had been enabled to accomplish the weighty service which he had in prospect

to the help and comfort of his mind; and presenting dimes minutes from Meetings he had visited, expressive of their satisfaction with his company, and that his Gospel ministry had been sound and edifying.

During several succeeding years, he was often liberated for religious service within the limits of different Yearly Meetings on this continent, and was favored to attend to his apprehended duty, to his own peace, and to the satisfaction and comfort of Friends.

In the 5th month 1850, he believed it his duty to spread before his friends, a concern which for many years had rested on his mind, to visit in the love of our dear Redeemer, the Meetings of Friends in Great Britain and Ireland, and to appoint Meetings among Friends and others; and also to visit some places and hold some meetings on the continent of Europe. This extensive and important religious engagement, claimed the solid and deliberate consideration of his Monthly and Quarterly Meetings, and of the Yearly Meeting of Ministers and Elders, and received their full and cordial unity; and his beloved wife, our dear friend Elizabeth Mender, having a similar concern, was in like manner liberated with the full unity of Friends; and in the 8th month, they embarked for England, with, we believe, the prayers of the Church for their safe guidance and preservation. In relation to this religious service, it may only be necessary for us to say, that we have abundant evidence that their Gospel labors were well received by those among whom their lot was cast both in Great Britain and Ireland and on the European continent; and having been favored to accomplish the service they believed required of them by Him who called them to the work, they were restored to us in the 11th month 1851, in the enjoyment of that peace which results alone from faithful obedience to the gracious Head of the Church.

After his return from Europe, our dear Friend

John Meader remained peacefully at home, with the exception of some religious service within our own Yearly Meeting and attending New-York Yearly meeting in 1856, until the 7th month 1857, when he received a certificate of the unity and encouragement of his Monthly and Quarterly Meetings to pursue his prospect of attending the Yearly Meetings of Ohio and Indiana, and for religious service within their limits, and also some portions of New York Yearly Meeting; which he was enabled satisfactorily to accomplish. In the 7th month 1858, he was liberated for the last time, for religious service within several of the Quarterly Meetings in this Yearly Meeting, and also to attend the Yearly Meeting of Baltimore; all of which he was favored to perform, to the entire relief and peace of his mind.

His religious services abroad appeared now to have been accomplished, except that he occasionally attended some meetings as they came in course, out of the limits of our Quarterly Meeting; but he was constant in the attendance of Meetings at home, and was frequently engaged to declare the way of salvation through a crucified and risen Lord; and with much power, through the motion of the Holy Spirit, to call all to come and be partakers of the unsearchable riches of Christ.

On the 28th of 3rd month 1860, he attended our Monthly Meeting, and was largely engaged in preaching the Gospel; after which, near the close of the Meeting, he rose the second time, and asking his friends to bear with him as peradventure it might be the last opportunity he might ever have with them, proceeded very sweetly and earnestly to exhort Friends to remember the solemn importance it is of meeting together for the public worship of our Father in Heaven; and when we had been favored to know something of His love shed abroad in our hearts, and-

our spirits raised in prayer and praise to Him, to be careful not to dissipate these solemn feelings and impressions of heavenly good, by entering too readily into social converse, and turning our attention to the frivolous things that pertain only to the present life.

We were aware that he was in feeble health, a harassing cough giving evidence of pulmonary disease; but we were in no wise prepared to realize that this was the last time we should be favored with his company, - that we should no more hear the messages of Gospel love which he had so often communicated, nor again receive the benefit of his suggestions and counsel in the exercise of the Discipline of the Church; in the right support of which he had always manifested the deepest interest. But thus it was appointed; - and the solemn impression upon his own mind, that we should see his face no more in our religious assemblies, proved to be the will of Him who ordereth all things in perfect wisdom.

We have now glanced at the life of our dear friend, and briefly referred to his religious course from the time when, at the early age of eighteen years, he first publicly espoused the cause of the dear Redeemer; and have seen with how much faithfulness he devoted a large portion of his time to the service of the Church, and to promote the cause of righteousness in the earth. While naturally of an ardent temperament, and subject to the like passions of his fellowmen, we have seen that through the controlling power of grace, and the gentle yet constraining influences of the Holy Spirit, the strong man was brought low, and his talents sanctified to the Master's service.

We come now to view him on the bed of death. Soon after attending the Meeting last referred to, he was careful to make final arrangements as to his temporal concerns, and in a very solemn interview with his wife and only son, he informed them that he believed his work

on earth was now nearly accomplished, and imparted to them all the consolation and the counsel with which his heart was filled; - and even spoke of his funeral, giving such directions in regard to it, as he wished to be observed. He had hoped to be able to attend our approaching Yearly Meeting, and once more to mingle with his friends with whom he had so often had precious Christian enjoyment, and his mind was especially drawn to the Yearly Meeting of Ministers and Elders; - and for this relief he indited a communication to that Meeting, which he entrusted to a friend, to be presented to Friends when assembled, if any should open for it. This Christian salutation was as from one speaking from the dead, this decease having taken place previously to the holding of the Yearly Meeting). and was cordially received, and placed upon record. It is as follows, viz:-

"If some easy and convenient way should open for it, I desire my dear love conveyed to the Yearly Meeting of Ministers and Elders, whose my spirit has so many times been refreshed and comforted with my beloved friends; and I desire them to know that, as I have endeavored to live in the faith and hope of the Gospel, so I desire to die in the same blessed faith and hope. In prospect of the solemn change that awaits me, my heart is often turned with deep and affectionate interest to those beloved friends engaged in the work and service of the ministry, especially those who are young, or who have not had much enlargement in the Truth, that these may be kept low and humble, in a waiting frame of mind, in all our religious meetings, and that the exercise of the ministry may be in that ability which God giveth, - in the power and authority of the unchangeable Truth, and of all their own planning, or the manage-

ment of the creature; that what any office as ministry may be in the power of the Lord Jesus through the influence of the Holy Spirit; and let all wait upon their several gifts and upon Him who hath bestowed them. This will keep and preserve them in love and harmony, enabling them to labor harmoniously together for the advancement of the Truth. And now let me warn my dear friends against the activity of the creature, in their religious engagements, or attempting to elucidate or explain the great and glorious doctrines of the Gospel of Jesus, so as to be received by the natural mind, unless clearly accompanied with the precious influence of the Holy Spirit; and always to remember, that if the word should prosper, our blessed Saviour must open the way for its reception in the heart of the hearer. "With the salutation of unfeigned love, I am your friend and brother".

Much might be said in relation to the short time that he now remained in a state of mutability; and most instructive, confirming and encouraging were his expressions, and the evidence afforded, of the sustaining power of Divine Grace in the approach of death. To many friends who visited him, he often expressed his sense of his entire unworthiness, — that it was wholly in the mercy of God in Christ Jesus, that his hope and trust were placed, and glorious and sustaining was the evidence now given him, that he was not forsaken — that in the Beloved, he would be accepted: he asked only for the lowest seat in Heaven. He again and again gave utterance to a fear that he was not sufficiently thankful for the favors he was enjoying, for the foretaste given him of the good things in store for him, — and all through unmerited mercy. He spoke of the decay of the body and the pains attending it, as not worthy of a thought, while such sweet peace was given him by the blessed Redeemer, such evidence of soon being permitted to partake of the joys of Heaven. In speaking with

a Christian friend, of the efficacy of grace to sustain in a dying hour, and of the sensible presence of Jesus graciously afforded him he says, "I once thought that the passage through the valley was to be feared, but I do not think so now. While the world and all therein is receding, the veil, at times is so lifted, that I am favored, in degree, to see the beauty of the celestial city."

To another friend he remarked, after speaking of his sense of his unworthiness, and that he viewed all that he had done, and the sacrifices he had made, as nothing, and of no account: "It is all of mercy, that I am so peaceful. Give God the glory. I am receiving an hundred fold in this world, and have the most merciful evidence, that through the redeeming blood of Christ, life everlasting will be granted me in the world to come."

Perhaps it is not often given to the Christian to have so unclouded a prospect of an entrance into the mansions prepared for the righteous; and none could more fully realize than we believe our beloved friend did, that it was all of sovereign grace, – no merits of his own. He loved the Saviour. He had been engaged to keep His commandments, – to do His will; and now this Saviour was very near. The valley through which he was to pass, as he emphatically expressed it, "was not dark; it seemed pleasant." For several days, he appeared to be passing through this valley of death, retaining his consciousness, with often a radiant smile upon his countenance, and so long as he could articulate, bearing testimony to the goodness and mercy extended to him. On the 7th of 6th month, 1860, the spirit was gently released from its earthly tenement and, we reverently believe, was united to the sanctified that surround the Throne, whose robes have been

washed and made white in the Blood of the Lamb.
We desire, in bearing this testimony concerning our dear brother, in no wise to extol the man; but to invite sorrowers to behold in him the efficacy of Divine Grace to turn them to the unfailing foundation of the prophets and apostles, Jesus Christ, the Rock of Ages; to encourage all to give themselves unto His service, that in the end, they too may be mercifully favored to rest on the Saviour's arm and be accepted in Him. "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord."

Signed on behalf and by direction of Providence Monthly Meeting of Friends, held 1st mo. 30th 1861.

Samuel Austin } Clerks
Anna T. Dennis }

At Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting of Friends, held at Providence, 2d mo. 7th 1861:—
A testimony from Providence Monthly Meeting concerning our late beloved friend, John Meader, was presented at this time, and being read and approved, was directed to be forwarded to the Meeting for Sufferings.
Signed by direction of the Meeting.

Gilbert Congdon } Clerks
Mary A. Smith }

P

Joseph Davis

Testimony of New Bedford Monthly Meeting, concerning Joseph Davis.

In the removal of a dear friend, whose walk among men has been a beautiful example of the quiet, unobtrusive life of an humble follower of the meek and lowly Jesus, we have felt it required of us to bear testimony to that grace by which he was enabled so to walk, and to acquit himself of the service laid upon him, to the peace of his mind, and to the comfort and edification of the church.

Joseph Davis, the subject of this memoir, was the son of James and Deborah Davis, and was born in New Bedford, in the seventh month, 1786. He was, from early life, disinclined to take any very active part in worldly pursuits, being best satisfied with a moderate income, produced by such exertion as would leave time and opportunity for that quietude of mind which was suited to his feelings. He was exemplary in the relations of life; conscientious in his dealings with his fellow men, and consistent in his Christian walk as a member of our religious society. But the trait by which he was most strongly marked, was the gentleness and simplicity of his character which was manifested in all his intercourse with those about him. Free of guile himself in a remarkable degree, and having been made a rich partaker of heavenly love, his heart abounded with love and good will toward all men, as equally objects of the same redeeming mercy. He was sincerely attached to the testimonies of our religious society, from a conviction that they were founded in the truth, and was convinced that it was his duty to conform thereto.

He was very constant in the attendance of our religious meetings, and when assembled

with us, the quiet solemnity of his countenance, and the evident fervor of his spirit, were sources of comfort and encouragement to his brethren. In short, we feel, in contemplating his instructive life, that we may, with reference to our departed friend, adopt the language of the apostle, that in simplicity and godly sincerity, not with fleshly wisdom, but by the grace of God, he had his conversation in the world.

About the year 1828, he first appeared in the ministry, not long after the decease of his venerated father, and faithfully occupying the gift, through the grace given unto him, his ministry was acknowledged by Friends, in the year 1833. In the exercise of his gift, he traveled but little from home, his service being mostly confined to his own meetings, or their immediate neighborhood.

His ministry was sound and edifying. His exhortations fervent, breathing out the feelings of his own devout mind, desiring that others might come to enjoy that peace which he felt to be so blessed, — that all might "taste and see that the Lord is good." He was remarkably prompt and ready in his devotional exercises; his mind seemed to be so constantly attuned to the heavenly melody, that he was in readiness to receive the divine commission, and no unnecessary delay prevented the timely delivery of the gospel message. In his communications he was generally concise being favored, as we believe, to mind with great fearfulness the limitations as well as the openings of the Holy Spirit.

Thus he continued to the close, — minding his own proper business, — concerned for the glory of God and the welfare of his brethren, — and finally departed this life, while his perceptions were yet clear and his mind unimpaired, in the full enjoyment of that peace which is the gift of our Heavenly Father to those that are engaged to do His will. His death, which

took place on the 14th of 3d month 1860 was in accordance with his quiet, well spent life; being taken away without apparent pain or suffering, and admitted, as we may humbly trust, to the blessed mansions, to unite with the ransomed of all generations, with whom his spirit, even while on earth, was so much in unison in thanksgiving and praise unto our God and unto the Lamb forever and ever.

Signed on behalf and by direction of New Bedford Monthly Meeting, held 3 mo. 28, 1861.

Charles R. Tucker }
Dorcas F. Tucker } Clerks

At Sandwich Quarterly Meeting of Friends, held at New Bedford, 4th mo. 4th 1861, a testimony of New Bedford Monthly Meeting, concerning our late beloved friend Joseph Davis, was read in this meeting, and being approved, was directed to be forwarded to the Meeting for Sufferings.

Attest: William C. Taber }
Sarah H. Anthony } Clerks

A testimony of Durham Monthly Meeting concerning our beloved friend Thomas Jones deceased

It having pleased our heavenly Father to remove from us our aged and much beloved father in the truth, we are engaged to bear the following testimony to his Christian character.

He was the son of Lemuel and Wait Jones and was born at Harpswell in the state of Maine, 5th Mo. 7th 1770. His parents were valuable members of our religious society and concerned for the guarded education of their beloved offspring. In 1773. they removed with their family to Brunswick, then a wilderness. Here the subject of this memoir had to endure some of the trials and privations incident to new countries.

He having outlived most of his early associates but little can be gathered of the days of his childhood; but, from what is known of him, he appears to have been an active boy diligent in business but prone to lightness and vanity, yet often met with the reproofs of instruction.

Among the circumstances which tended to establish him in a religious life was this. His father an approved minister was engaged in visiting the families in this meeting, and in the course of his visit said to his companion "I can go no farther until I have an opportunity in my own family". In this season the mind of our dear friend was powerfully visited of the Lord. Near the close of his life he alluded to this circumstance, saying it was from that period that he gave up more fully to follow the teachings of the grace of God made manifest in the heart.

From what can be gathered this was about the 21st. year of his age. His convictions of sin, at this time were more than ~~of~~ an ordinary kind; he literally wept and mourned in secret places; his conscience accused him bitterly, and his fear of doing wrong was so great that he abstained from some things which he afterwards deemed lawful.

Having thus known the terrors of the Lord for sin, and something of that redemption that comes by Jesus Christ, he was prepared to tell unto others what God had done for his soul. During this or the following year he first appeared in the ministry, and in obeying this call of his divine Lord, he felt that he had no right to "consult with flesh and blood" By yielding obedience unto his Lord, he found peace, and that cheerfulness which characterized

him through life became his. He was recorded a minister in the fifth month 1806. His first certificate for religious service was granted him in the 3d month 1808.

From this time he was often engaged traveling in this service, visiting all the meetings in our own Yearly Meeting and the most of them many times. He, also, at different times, travelled somewhat extensively within the limits of New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Ohio and North Carolina Yearly Meetings.

In the year 1859 he received from this meeting his last certificate to go forth as a minister, and although then in the 89th year of his age, his bodily health and strength impaired and the powers of his mind much weakened, yet he was favored to perform the service to the satisfaction of his friends. After this when near 90 years of age he visited all the meetings in our Quarterly Meeting, and many of the visited as well as those who accompanied him, bear testimony that they were favored with the life and power of the Gospel.

In the management of his temporal affairs he was careful that strict integrity should mark all his acts; endeavoring to be very methodical and correct in all his deals, that his mind might be kept clear and free from unjust. Thus in his life and conversation it may be said that although adorable mercy he was favored to adorn the doctrine he delivered to others.

He was punctual in the attendance of all our meetings and a strict observer of the hour. In the exercise of his ministry, his communications were generally short, but full and expressive. He was ever careful, neither to go before nor to lag behind what he apprehended to be the requirement of his Lord. In doctrine sound and edifying, sensible of the fallen state of man, and the means provided for his restoration, it was his to preach Christ and him crucified.

He was favored, by the grace of God, to be a pattern of meekness, humility and devotion, a faithful husband, an affectionate father, a kind neighbor, beloved & respected by all who knew him.

In the guarded education of our young people, he took a deep interest, and his exhortations to those were that they might follow the Lamb, the Leader in the way of his

requirings. On the introduction of the First-day school within the limits of this Monthly Meeting, he manifested his interest by his personal attendance, and frequently during the pause that preceded the close of these schools he had a few words to say by way of advice or encouragement.

Having for many years sat at the head of his own meeting, as age drew on he became jealous of himself, and in a manner truly humbling, requested his friends to release him in some measure from the responsibility of closing them, lest the cause of truth might suffer. But he continued to exercise his gift in the ministry until within a few weeks of his decease and in a manner acceptable to his friends.

He was, to many of us, a nursing father and elder who had obtained a good report, thro' faith, and worthy of double honor. His memory is precious to us.

In his last sickness he seemed bright in the truth, and uttered many expressions showing that his mind was centred in Christ. On one occasion he said "I have many low seasons in which I have to mourn the absence of my Beloved, but I have others in which I can sing for joy and utter forth the praises of my God. I think I can say "I know that my Redeemer liveth" He frequently ejaculated "I long to be conformed to the heavenly image". I am deeply humbled before the Lord under a sense of my unworthiness. O Lord redeem my soul from this pit of pollution. Mould & fashion me into the heavenly image. I want to be moulded into the heavenly image" These and other prayerful expressions were almost constantly flowing from his lips, until, as we reverently believe, he quietly fell asleep in Jesus. He died 1st Mo 7th 1864. aged 93 years and 8 months

Signed by direction of Durham Monthly Meeting of Friends held at South Durham Maine 5th Mo 23d 1865

Calvin S. Goddard } clerks
Martha M. Varney }

At Falmouth Quarterly Meeting of Friends held at Westbrook, 6th Mo. 1st. 1865.

A testimony concerning our late beloved friend Thomas Jones, from Durham Monthly Meeting

was presented at this time, and being read and approved was directed to be forwarded to the Meeting for Sufferings

Taken from the minutes of the Meeting

Henry M. Minott } clerks
Jane Pope }

Testimony of Litchfield Monthly Meeting, State of Maine, concerning Eliza M. Starr, deceased

In giving forth this brief testimony in regard to our deceased friend, it is not our object to eulogize the dead or flatter the living, but that survivors may be encouraged to increased devotion in following the truth with meekness and holy fear.

She was the daughter of Valentine and Phebe Meader who were both approved ministers of the gospel in the Society of Friends and were members of Berkshire Monthly Meeting State of Vermont. She was born 3d mo. 24th 1814. and was married to Noah Starr 1st Mo. 27th 1836. and became a member of Litchfield Monthly Meeting and resided within its limits until her death.

Here she endeared herself to her friends and neighbors being ever watchful to do them good by acts of kindness or a word fitly spoken, being very solicitous that they should dwell together in unity; and she labored to promote and restore harmony amongst those over whom she had an influence. Even in the social circle her mind seemed to dwell upon serious things and she was very ready to converse with those about her upon the solemn truths of the religion she professed, and she appeared in that heavenly frame of mind which rendered her ready for every good word and work.

She was endowed with an excellent gift in the ministry which was acknowledged by her Monthly Meeting in the 3d mo. 1847. and it was believed by her friends that she was sound in word and doctrine. She was liberated several times by her Monthly Meeting to travel in the love of the gospel in New England and some parts of New York Yearly Meeting which service she was favored to accomplish to the satisfaction of her friends.

In her public testimony her manner was solemn and impressive, and her language appeared to be of the heart, convincing her hearers that she realized what she uttered.

She was often solemnly engaged to plead with the young to endeavor to lead them to the Savior and very solemn and fervent were the petitions that she was often concerned publickly to offer to the Father of mercies on behalf of the youth and precious children. She was frequently engaged in vocal supplication upon the bended knee in the family circle and was often a welcome visiter at the bed-side of the sick. She was an affectionate and sympathizing mother, ever watching over her children for good and daily striving to direct their thoughts to that Savior from whence flows all good and to place before them an example of piety and virtue. She often tenderly reminded them of the great need there is of early seeking an interest in the dear Redeemer, warning them to avoid giving way to lightness and idle conversation, which she frequently remarked was not in accordance with a Christian profession, and not well-pleasing in the divine sight; and to turn their attention from these perishing things to those of a more enduring nature.

She particularly conversed with her children and often in tears on the vanities of this world, the uncertainty of life and the great need of a preparation while in health for the solemn change that awaiteth mortals, telling them that often in the night season when none saw her but he who beholdeth all things her desires were raised to the Father of mercies on their behalf that they might walk humbly and in the fear of the Lord; and she ever assured them that nothing would give her more comfort than to know that they loved the truth

Thus we believe her work was going on in the daytime and her spirit ripening for the heavenly garner; and when brought to a sick bed and it was evident she could not recover, though she expressed but little yet the patience with which she bore her illness and the serenity that marked her features gave evidence that her mind was tranquil, that her work was finished and she was only waiting the summons to depart and be forever with her Savior.

A short time before her death, on being asked if she felt resigned, she replied "That is my aim. I am a poor creature" When asked if she felt peaceful, she replied, "Yes".

The last hours of her life were attended with much bodily suffering, and though her words were very few in regard to the prospect before her, yet her spirit seemed engaged in secret prayer; and we believe that when the Bridegroom came her lamp was trimmed and burning, and she was

prepared to enter the mansions of eternal rest and happiness which the Lord hath in Store for those who love and obey Him

She departed this life 9th mo. 28th 1863. aged 49 years, 6 months & 4 days.

Though wearing the shackles of mortality and clothed with infirmity as others, thus, trusting in Jesus, she was enabled to live and finish her course through the grace of God yielded to and cherished by Her.

Having been greatly beloved by those who were acquainted with her in life, her loss was keenly felt when we knew that her lips were silent in death. But being dead her example yet speaketh "Follow me as I have followed Christ."

Signed by direction and on behalf of Litchfield Monthly Meeting of Friends held at Manchester 12th Mo. 26th 1866.

Moses Bailey } Clerks
Eunice W. Farr }

At Fairfield Quarterly Meeting of Friends held at Manchester 2d mo. 7th 1866, a testimony of Litchfield Monthly Meeting concerning our late beloved Friend Eliza M. Farr was at this time read and approved; and the clerk was directed to sign it on our behalf and forward it to the Meeting for Sufferings

Alden Sampson } Clerks
Fanny S. Pinkham }

A Testimony from New Bedford Monthly Meeting, concerning Ruth Davis, deceased.

"The memory of the just is blessed"; and it is in our hearts to prepare a brief testimony concerning our late beloved and valued friend Ruth Davis who was for more than sixty years a member and recorded minister of this Monthly Meeting.

She was the daughter of Samson and Ruth Shearman and was born at Portsmouth R.I. on the 20th of 2d mo. 1778.

In her early life she was made sensible of the necessity of submission to the regenerating power of divine grace, and was convinced thereby that a birth-right membership in the Society of Friends, or a mere name to religion would avail nothing in the great work of the soul's salvation. And although her outward life, even in childhood and early youth, was very circumspect,

yet was she truly humbled in spirit before the Lord, with earnest prayer unto him for preservation. Thus seeking the God of her fathers, it was her blessed experience to find him, and to enter into a covenant to serve him with a perfect heart and a willing mind

After many baptisms and conflicts of spirit, she first appeared as a minister in the 17th year of her age, & tho' her health was at that time and through a long course of years very delicate, she evinced her love to her Father in heaven and to her friends and fellow pilgrims on earth, by a diligent attendance of our religious meetings whenever ability permitted

She was not required to travel much abroad, yet within the limits of her own Monthly, Quarterly & Yearly Meeting she was frequently engaged in the service of her divine Master. In her journal she records the attendance of many Funerals and religious visits to the families of Friends & which seems on one occasion, she thus writes. "The prospect before me has indeed brought a weight over my spirit and it appears arduous, that of visiting the families of the particular meeting to which I belong. May I keep very near to my true Guide, having the eye directed singly unto him, then he will enable me to find what I have to do, and what to leave undone: and O, that the little may be blessed."

In the exercise of her gift she was weighty in spirit, clear in doctrine, concise in expression and watchful that her ministry should be under the influence and circumscribing power of the true anointing

Her friends have also cause to remember the steadfastness of her faith, and the charity which clothed her Spirit while meekly instructing those who opposed themselves during all the varied trials in our religious society which it was her lot to witness;- in this also leaving a good example for those who remain.

In the year 1803. She was married to Obadiah Davis and by his death in 1833. she became a sorrowing widow. Yet, tho' thus bereaved, she was not left desolate, but found the blessed promises verified in her experience, and as she advanced in life was enabled to testify that He who had been her morning light; had become her evening song.

The last entry in her journal is as follows, clearly evincing by her own expressions to which might be added the testimony of Friends who visited her very near the close, the loving and resigned spirit in which she received the

Summons to depart. 7th mo. 11th 1863. "How near and dear my relatives and friends are to me. I love them in the truth. How sweet the truth is! I humbly crave to abide in faith and patience. I think I can adopt the language of the inspired apostle, The life which I now live in the flesh, I live by the faith of the Son of God"

Thus living, waiting & watching, when the messenger came she was found ready, and joyfully entered upon her heavenly inheritance on the 2d day of 9th Mo. 1864. aged 56 years, a recorded minister 13 years

Signed on behalf of
New Bedford Monthly Meeting held 3d mo. 22d 1866.

Matthew Howland
Sarah H. Anthony
} clerks for the day

At Sandwich Quarterly Meeting of Friends held at New Bedford 4th Mo. 5th 1866.

A testimony of New Bedford Monthly Meeting concerning our late beloved friend Ruth Davis was read in this meeting, and being approved was directed to be forwarded to our Meeting for Sufferings

Charles R. Tucker
Dorcas F. Tucker
} Clerks

Testimony of Dear Monthly Meeting concerning our deceased friend Sarah B. Roberts

Our beloved friend Sarah B. Roberts was the daughter of Jonathan and Anna Beede, and was born in Sandwich N. H. 14th of 2d mo. 1796.

In childhood she was favored with the gentle influences of our heavenly Father's regard, as appears by her own remarks in her diary in which she expresses that in early life the Lord visited her with the tenderest impressions of his love.

Many and deep were the baptisms appointed her of him who saw meet to call her and thus to prepare her to declare to others what the Lord had done for her, and to preach the unsearchable riches of Christ, under which her soul longed

for a living experience in that which crucifies to the world. She appears to have deeply felt the necessity of a preparation of heart for the solemn vocation to which she was called.

At the age of seventeen years she lost, suddenly, a tender and sympathizing mother. The shock, she said, she was not prepared to meet. She then resolved with the assistance of Him she desired to love and serve, to yield obedience to the manifestations of His will by publicly acknowledging her Lord and Master, and by yielding thereto she was favored to feel the answer of peace.

In the 11th Mo. 1833. She was married to our friend Jesse Roberts of Farmington and came to reside within the limits of Deer Monthly Meeting. In 1852. Her public appearances in the ministry were approved. In 4th Mo. 1859 a minute was granted her to visit the northern part of New York Yearly Meeting particularly Canada - which visit she was favored to perform to the peace of her own mind and to the satisfaction of those visited. Near the close of this visit, when on her way home she writes, "I believe I never felt more peaceful than I have to day. I have felt an unusual melody in my heart, for which I know not how to be sufficiently thankful. I know not how I could be happier in this tenement of clay: and surely it is not for any works of righteousness that I have done. No! No! It is all of mercy, free unmerited mercy. My lips have been sealed and my meditations have been sweet. And O, how have I poured out my soul in solemn silent prayer for the loved ones at home and for all those with whom I have met and mingled on our journey, as well as for all mankind."

It appears that our dear friend was permitted to realize the truthfulness of the declaration "He that goeth forth and weepeth bearing precious seed shall, doubtless, come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him"

It is under a lively impression of her upright walk among us and a deep sense of our privation by her removal that we are concerned to bear testimony to the efficacy of that divine grace which so wrought in her to the purifying of the heart and qualified her to become a skillful laborer in the Master's service. It is meet that such be held in remembrance as an encouragement to others to persevere in a like course of faithfulness. Her deportment was dignified and instructive bearing the evidence of a watchful & guarded spirit.

In the administration of discipline Her judgement was clear, seeking the honor of truth and the health of the body. Her ministry was sound and edifying, and under the influence, as we believe, of divine truth it met the faithful witness in the hearers; and being careful not to move without right authority she was also cautious not to exceed its limitations.

The sufferings of our dear friend while prostrated by sickness, were at times great, yet they were borne with patient resignation and the precious evening of Her spirit seemed evident to those about Her, altho' the nature of the disease prevented much expression. Several ministering Friends called to see Her during those painful hours, - which to her afforded comfort and refreshment.

Near the close she repeated the words of the Psalmist "Light is sown for the righteous, and joy and gladness for the upright in heart"

She departed this life the fourth of 10th month 1863. in the sixty eighth year of her age, and we reverently believe that through the abounding grace and meritorious offering of our Lord Jesus Christ her ransomed spirit obtained admittance into the kingdom of heaven.

Signed on behalf and by direction of Dover Monthly Meeting of Friends held at Dover the 15th of 4th Mo. 1866

Cyprus Bangs } Clerks.
Anna M. Evens }

At Dover Quarterly Meeting of Friends held at Dover 4th Mo. 26th 1866.

The foregoing testimony of Dover Monthly Meeting concerning our late beloved friend Sarah B. Roberts was read and approved and the clerk was directed to forward it to the Meeting for Sufferings with a copy of this minute signed on our behalf

Albert C. Burpee } Clerks
Abigail C. Beede }

A testimony of Seabrook Monthly Meeting concerning Martha Meader

We feel it to be due to the memory of this dear departed friend, and to the efficacy of that grace which enabled her to labor effectually in the cause of truth and righteousness in the earth, to furnish a brief testimony respecting her.

She was born in Duchess County New York the 24th of 12th mo. 1787, and was the daughter of those eminent ministers Joseph and Huldah Hoag whose pious example and religious concern to train up their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord were remarkably blessed. When she was quite young they removed to the State of Vermont and settled in an almost entire wilderness section of country which subjected her in her childhood to many privations and disadvantages incident to a new settlement. She manifested a gentleness of disposition and seriousness of mind that rendered her youthful training a pleasant task, and early in life she evinced a love of religious meetings. For several years there was but one meeting for worship in that section of country; to attend which she with her parents and their other children had to walk several miles and at times under very discouraging circumstances, - yet she gladly embraced the opportunity.

She appeared in public testimony when quite young. But of the exercises and baptisms which she necessarily passed through in her younger years we can say but little, as she left no memoranda and seldom made her own religious experience a subject of remark. But as she grew in years she gave evidence of a growth in grace and the improvement of the gift bestowed upon her for the edification of the church.

In the year 1810 she was married to Ezra Meader and removed to reside with her husband in Sandwich N.H. and consequently became a member of that Monthly Meeting, and in 1818 was acknowledged as a minister by that meeting. She was several times liberated to perform religious service in our own Yearly Meeting & in that of New York, - her most extensive visits being within the limits of the last named meeting, - which closely occupied her time about seven months. Her visits in gospel love appear to have been to the satisfaction of her friends wherever her lot was cast. She was sound in doctrine, and in her public

testimonies was often led in a remarkable manner to speak to the state of meetings and individuals, giving evidence of the divine authority of her ministry; and when religiously engaged in families was frequently led to point out to individuals the future path they would have to walk and the service they would be called to if faithful.

She felt called upon to bear a decided testimony against the sin of oppression, and her concern for the people of color continued unabated to the close of life, and these were often the subjects of her earnest supplication in her approaches to the throne of grace.

In her family she was a devoted wife and an affectionate mother, carefully watching over her children for good and in this her religious concern for them she had a rich reward in their filial affection for her and their love of the truth. In her social intercourse she was remarkably kind and cheerful, often visiting the sick and administering to their wants, ever ready to fix a word of comfort to the afflicted and sorrowful and of encouragement to the diffident, and to the wayward and erring, charitable and forgiving.

Her affectionate feelings as a mother and wife, were at several times put to a severe trial. She had followed two lovely, pious daughters to the grave, and, in 1861, her devoted husband who had been a fellow-laborer with her & sympathized and shared with her in the trials and exercises that in wisdom had been meted out to them.

During the last three years she resided at Amesbury where, notwithstanding her age and infirmities, she was a very constant attender of our meetings and faithful and earnest in her public religious testimonies.

In the fall of 1864 she was liberated to pay a religious visit to Friends in some of the southerly parts of our Yearly Meeting; which she was enabled to perform to the satisfaction of her friends and much to the peace of her own mind.

He who had been her helper from youth to old age, still sustained and strengthened her to accomplish the service required of her. Again in the 8th mo. last, she left home on a religious visit to Friends of Dover Quarterly Meeting and attended meetings in various places to her peace; and, having accomplished the service she had in prospect, was about to return home

when taken seriously ill. After a short illness of a few days duration, she was favored to depart in much peace and hope.

At the commencement of her sickness she expressed the belief that she had nearly reached the close of her life, but she had not visited all the meetings she had in view and her work seemed near its end. She said that through the adorable mercy of God in his dear Son, she was about to enter into rest. A few hours before her death she was engaged in fervent supplication for herself, her friends and for the whole human family. The quiet release which she asked for herself was mercifully granted the 31st of 10th mo. last, in her seventy eighth year.

In the death of this dear friend we deeply feel that we have individually sustained a great loss, and the church a faithful laborer, a Standard bearer who was ever found at her post, watching as on the walls of Zion with earnest solicitude for its peace and prosperity.

How removal clothed our minds with sadness! yet we are comforted with the assurance that her purified Spirit has gone to join that innumerable company who have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

Signed on behalf and by direction of Seabrook Monthly Meeting of Friends held at Amesbury the 3d of 8th Mo. 1866.

Daniel Beede } Clerks
Mary Allen Brown }

At Salem Quarterly Meeting held at Amesbury 9th of 8th Mo. 1866.

A testimony of Seabrook Monthly Meeting concerning our late beloved friend Martha Hoadley was at this time read and approved, and the clerks were directed to sign it and forward it to our Meeting for Sufferings.

Samuel Boyce } Clerks
Eliza B. Boyce }

A testimony from Vassalboro Monthly Meeting concerning Anna Cates

Anna Cates was the daughter of Charles and Mary Bunker, and grand-daughter of our late honored father in the church, Benjamin Worth; and was born on the island of Nantucket the 8th of 2d mo 1799. Her father died during her infancy, and her mother (after a second marriage and a second bereavement) removed and settled within the limits of Vassalboro Monthly meeting in 1810.

She was by nature of a very lively disposition, yet she has been heard to say that her mind was visited by the tendering influences of divine love very early in life. In her 12th year she manifested much interest in attending meetings, and was at times found alone and in tears.- and it is probable that her first permanent impressions of a religious ~~nature~~ character dated from that period, but there was no decided change in her appearance until about two years later, which was indicated by an increased seriousness of deportment and by declining to share in the amusements common to young persons of her age, and likewise by a more diligent attendance of our religious meetings - a duty from which she never afterward swerved.

She was married to Edmund Cates in the year 1819. She was a devoted wife and mother, endeavoring to bring up her children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, possessing a humane and sympathizing heart, ever ready to administer with a liberal hand to the necessities of the suffering.

She remarked to a friend that when convinced it would be required of her to appear in vocal supplication, she thought she could yield to the requirement if permitted to make the sacrifice first at home - This was mercifully granted and her first petition was offered in her own family. Her gift in the ministry was subsequently acknowledged by Vassalboro Monthly Meeting. Her labor were mostly within the limits of her own Yearly Meeting. She was, however, liberated for a religious visit in the Yearly Meetings of New York and Baltimore, which was accomplished to her own peace and to the satisfaction of Friends as appeared from the returning minutes. Her ministry was sound, weighty and edifying; and under as we believe, the influence of divine truth - being careful not to move without right authority and also not to exceed its limitations. She said she would rather bear her own burden and carry it home with her than to burden the meeting with an unsanctified offering.

She was a firm believer in the excellence of true silent worship where the whole powers of the mind are resigned & the soul feels the force of this language "Be still and know that I am God", and realizes that he can only help us. Her humble walk with God, her steadfast faith in Christ and in the efficacy of the one great offering, her simple dependence upon the leadings of the Holy Spirit and her self-denying obedience to its requirements are fresh in the memory of those who had the privilege of mingling with her and appreciated her unassuming example of Christian dedicatedness.

Her health for several years appeared to be declining, being subject to frequent attacks of asthma. The week previous to her decease she was suddenly taken ill, finally sinking into a state of unconsciousness in which her breathing could with difficulty be perceived, remaining in this state about seven hours then reviving as one awakened from sleep & appearing unusually clear and bright. Saying to a friend who had called to see her that her mind felt clearer than it had for some time before. When her family alluded to the seven hours of unconsciousness she said that she had been in a sweet sleep in the arms of her Savior, seeing him and being very happy & when she awoke she felt so happy that she could not describe it, adding that she had formerly been cruelly buffeted, and had prayed that she might not be again; and then observed in a weighty & solemn manner that she had endeavored to do what she could for her Savior's cause but considered herself a poor unworthy creature, having nothing of her own to rely upon, but that her Savior through unmerited mercy had done all for her, her day's work was now done, her labor was over, she saw nothing in her way and hoped soon to be with him - She had been raised up at this time not on her own account but for her family, that they might see the goodness of God"

It truly was a solemn, humbling season long to be remembered by her friends then present and reminded them of the testimony of the apostle "As sorrowful yet alway rejoicing; as poor yet making many rich, as having nothing and yet possessing all things" Thus she continued a few days. On the 22nd of 10th Mo. she became more unwell & on the 23rd departed like one falling into a sweet sleep. We have the consoling trust that through the mercy of God in Christ Jesus that she has been permitted to enter, with the glorious Bride, [illegible] into the marriage chamber of the Lamb.

Her remains were interred in Friends' burial ground at East Vassalboro 10th Mo. 26th 1865, - a large and favored meeting being held on the occasion. Signed on behalf of Vassalboro Monthly Meeting of Friends held the 15th of 5th Mo. 1867

Thomas B. Rhoads
Emily E. Dudley } Clerks
(For the women)

At Vassalboro Quarterly Meeting of Friends held the 31st of 5th Mo. 1867.

The foregoing testimony of Vassalboro Monthly Meeting concerning our late beloved friend Anna Cates was received at this time, and being read and approved, was directed to be forwarded to the Meeting for Sufferings

Thomas B. Nichols } Clerks
Mary C. Jones }

A testimony of Durham Monthly Meeting concerning our dear friend Mary P. Varney wife of Stephen Varney.

It having pleased the Lord to take to himself this our dear sister we are engaged to bear the following brief testimony concerning her.

She was the daughter of David and Thankful Pettengill and was born in Lewiston Maine the 14th of 1st Mo. 1797. Her parents were members of the Baptist society her father a deacon in the church and, although a man of few words, we believe his Christian meekness and pious walk were blessed to the good of his family.

This our dear sister was enabled about the 21st year of her age to own her Lord and Master before men and united herself in membership with the Baptist society, becoming a valued & zealous member thereof. But after a time she became much tried in her mind in relation to some of the views of this people particularly on the subject of predestination. In the 26th year of her age she went to reside in the family of a Friend where she spent nearly three years. Here she became more acquainted with our views on the doctrines of the gospel.

One little circumstance, among others, seems to have had an effect in turning her mind towards the Society of Friends.

Being about to attend one of our meetings, and knowing that they were often held much in silence - which then seemed to her last time - she took a book to occupy herself. But as the meeting became gathered into stillness the mind of our dear friend was powerfully arrested and entirely taken from her book and she was brought to see the nature of true worship, realizing the great truth, that "God is a spirit, and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth"

As she examined the doctrines of Friends in connection

with the teachings of the New Testament, she found they fully accorded with the convictions of her own mind; and she believed it required of her tho' very much in the cross to her natural will, to unite herself in membership with the society of Friends, which was also for a time a sore trial to her parents and connections, but her pious father soon became reconciled to her course and was disposed to encourage her faithfully to pursue the path of duty marked out for her.

Although she had so far submitted to the divine requirements as to appear as a feel among her former friends & associates, yet a greater trial awaited her from an apprehension that it was required of her to speak in our religious meetings. This seemed to her so awful a work that, for nearly twelve years, she resisted it - which plunged her into darkness and she was much deserted by her good Master. But he whose compassions fail not, was pleased often to renew his visitation to her poor disconsolate soul.

In the 39th year of her age she was enabled to yield to divine requirings and uttered a few words in our religious meetings to the peace of her own mind and the comfort of her friends. From that time she endeavored to be more faithful; - her communications being evidently attended with divine unction, she was acknowledged a minister 3d mo. 1844. Her own remarks under this, are, "Oh! how unworthy and unfit for so great and important service: I have no language whereby I can convey my feelings on so solemn a subject; may the Lord be my strength and support in every needful time.

Her communications were mostly short, but in the life and power of the gospel. It was her lot to have many low seasons to pass through, in which her own sins of omission and commission were brought vividly before her and her faith low, but he who knew the integrity of her heart, after having thus proved her, would again arise for her help and dispel the clouds and she favored to come forth in the life of the gospel and tell to others what the Lord had done for her soul to the encouragement and comfort of her friends.

Her labors in the gospel were mostly confined to our own and neighboring Quarterly Meetings. She was often found in a quiet manner visiting a neighboring meeting and mingling with her friends to her own peace and we trust the comfort of the visited.

We desire not to exalt the creature but to magnify that

grace which made her what she was. We realize the loss the church has sustained in her removal, and the thought comes home to us with much seriousness, Who is prepared to take her place? Her memory is precious to us.

The disease which terminated the life of this dear friend was one of a lingering nature, attended with extreme bodily suffering; but by the help of our blessed Savior whom she had acknowledged and who had been precious to her from early life she was enabled to bear it with Christian fortitude and patience. Her heart overflowed with thankfulness for the blessings that remained and the kindness of her many friends.

"My Savior she said suffered for us, trod the wine-press alone, and of the people there was none with him". "I desire that not one murmur may escape my lips, that I may bear all that may be laid upon me till in his own time he may say It is enough!" My shortcomings have been many, but I have the promise of my Savior that he will not cast me off. O the unsearchable love of God in Christ Jesus! my soul is filled with praises, praises, everlasting praises!" My love I leave out to all my friends; I have much desired once more to be with them in our meeting but it has pleased otherwise. Give my dear love to them all without any distinction, and bid them all farewell for me. I feel much for our Monthly Meeting that Friends may be preserved on the ancient foundation, that all our testimonies may be maintained, not one of them suffered to fall - that the Standard-bearer may be faithful - that Friends be firm and not flinch in the day of trial" Again she said, "I feel that my Savior is near, ready to receive my waiting spirit; I seem to stand on Jordan's banks and see the happy land just across the narrow stream, I ask not for a glittering crown, but for some humble seat near my Savior, where I can see his face & sing his praise. Thus relying on the mercy of God in Christ Jesus and the efficacy of his atoning blood her close was peaceful, as one falling asleep. She died 8th mo. 24th. 1866. aged 67 years 7 mos. 10 days.

Signed by direction of Durham Monthly Meeting of Friends held at South Durham 5th mo. 21st and by adjournment on the 30th 1867

Stephen Swett
Martha M. Varney } Clerks

At Falmouth Quarterly Meeting of Friends, held at Westbrook 6th mo. 6th 1867

The foregoing testimony of Durham Monthly Meeting concerning our dear friend Mary P. Varney deceased was read and approved

Signed by direction of the meeting, Calvin S. Goddard, Clerk

A testimony of Durham Monthly Meeting, concerning our dear friend Eunice Day wife of George P. Day.

It having pleased the Lord to remove from works to rewards, this our dear Sister, we are engaged to bear the following brief testimony concerning her.

She was the daughter of David and Wait Douglass, and was born in Brunswick, Me. the 15th of 10th Mo. 1813. Her parents were members of our religious Society, concerned to train their children in the path of virtue, and we believe their tender counsel was, like bread cast upon the waters, found after many days.

Although our dear Sister in early life indulged to some extent in the vanities of the world, yet we believe the call of the Savior was often extended to her, "Come, follow me". In after life she was favored to take up her cross and as she abode under the refining process of him who is compared to a Refiner and purifier of silver, in due time a dispensation of the gospel was committed to her and she was enabled to bear testimony to the efficacy of divine grace and to proclaim to others the way of salvation through a crucified Savior.

She was recorded a minister in 1855. At this time she was not a member of our Monthly Meeting. After her removal within our limits, it seemed to be her lot to be much of a silent worshiper. She was careful in the exercise of her gift in the ministry to wait for the fresh arising of the divine life, and then her communications tho' not very frequent, nor often lengthy were in the life and power of the gospel; and when no words were uttered, the nearness of her spirit was felt to be strengthening and comforting. She was careful to keep the exercises and conflicts of mind that were intended for her own good mostly to herself. She had at heart the welfare & prosperity of our religious society, and was concerned that she might adorn her profession by a circumspect life. Her memory is precious to us. We have no wish to eulogize the creature believing she was what she was by the grace of God. We sensibly feel the loss the church has sustained in her removal, and the prayer often arises that others be raised up to fill the places of those that have been recently removed from us. Her labors in the gospel were mostly confined within the limits of our own Yearly Meeting, she having, at different times, visited most of the meetings comprising it, to the peace of her own mind and the satisfaction & comfort of the visited.

In the 5th Mo. 1865, with the unity of her friends, she attended New York Yearly Meeting, - Minds appointed for Jersey. She hoped the remaining months of her life might afford

diligent in attending meetings and mingling with her friends as usual. Third mo. 29th 1866. she attended meeting with us for the last time, and was engaged in testimony, quoting the words of the Psalmist. "Search me O God and know my heart, try me and know my thoughts, and see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting"

The next day symptoms of diphtheria were apparent which increased rapidly and occasioned her deep searching of heart to know if she was prepared to meet the summons of her Lord. "Behold the Bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him" In this trying hour best help was afforded, and she was enabled to resign herself, her husband and children into the Lord's care. From that time until her release her heart seemed to overflow with love; often expressing her earnest desire for the church that the members thereof might be prepared of the Lord to bear every affliction, - for it was none but the pure in heart that would stand in the day of trial.

When some of her friends visited her about the third day of her sickness and expressed that they thought she might be raised again she replied, "I cannot tell how it may turn. I am resigned. Death has no terrors: the sting thereof is taken away" Her strength now failed rapidly and it was evident she could not continue long. After imparting sweet counsel to her husband and expressing tender sympathy for him in the prospect of a separation she turned to her children and said "My dear children do not be deceived. Be established on Christ. Buy the truth & sell it not, for it will give you that peace which the world can neither give nor take away. You will want it; all will want it in the trying hour. Neither riches nor honor can give a passport to the celestial city" Her sufferings of body remained great while her tongue was loosed to ascribe praises to her dear Redeemer; thus giving evidence that she had not followed cunningly devised fables but living substantial truth that could support in the dying hour

She said she felt her Savior near, that his rod and his staff were her comfort, therefore she would not fear. and so passed quietly away, to mingle, we trust, with the just of all generations She died the 5th of 4th Mo. 1866. aged 52 years. 6 months 19 days

Signed by direction of Durham Monthly Meeting of Friends held at South Durham 5th Mo. 21st. and by adjournment on the 30th 1867

Stephen Swett
Martha M. Varney } Clerks

The foregoing testimony of Durham Monthly Meeting of Friends concerning our dear friend, Eunice Day, deceased was read and approved

From the minutes of Falmouth Quarterly Meeting of Friends, held at Westbrook 6th Mo. 6th 1867.

Calvin S. Goddard, Clerk

A Testimony of Salem Monthly Meeting of Friends, in the State of Massachusetts, respecting Mary Chase deceased

Although some time has elapsed since the death of our beloved friend, Mary Chase, yet we believe it right to preserve some account of the remarkable work of grace which which was wrought in and for her by the tendering and convincing operation of the light of truth, whereby she was enabled in early life to forsake the follies and vanities of a worldly course, and consistently, through a long life, to sustain the character of the lowly follower of a crucified and risen Saviour.

She was the eldest daughter of Stephen Abbot - a native of Andover, Mass. - and Sarah his wife, and was born in Salem where her father then resided, Sixth month 3rd 1772. In her youth she was remarkably mature in mind and judgement and was early introduced into a circle of the gay and fashionable society of her native place where she was a decided favorite.

According to the wishes of her parents and her own inclination she was accustomed to dress in the gayest style of the day and freely to participate in the amusements of the gay world around her.

In religious profession the family were of the English Church, or Episcopalians, and were punctually observant of the forms of that sect, and in her father's house a generous hospitality was kept up and a style of living maintained consistent with his prominent position in life.

As his daughter Mary grew towards womanhood, she became more and more a favorite among her acquaintances and was repeatedly the recipient of what were considered high [illegible] in the community [illegible], [illegible] to human vanity and tending to lead her to place her affections upon the empty honors and fading joys of this world.

We mention these circumstances in her early life, her surroundings and the allurements and temptations to which she was subjected, to pursue the course which was approved and encouraged by her affectionate parents and which was so agreeable to her family and friends, — in order to set forth the sacrifices she was called upon to make and the power and mercy of that grace by which she was enabled to forsake all for her Lord and thus, in her very youth, seemingly to follow him in the meek and lowly path of self-denial in which he was pleased to lead her, becoming, as it were, a spectacle to her companions, to her family and to the world.

This course of life continued until her nineteenth or twentieth year, until which time she appears to have been satisfied with these pursuits and habits, with her friends and associates and with the gay world around her, — and so far as is now known without doubting their propriety. But the Lord saw fit to call her to a very different vocation, and in great mercy visited her with His heart-tendering call, in which she was led to see and realize the vanity of worldly pursuits.

These gracious visitations were from time to time renewed and the voice that speaks as never man yet spake sounded in her mental ear, and, tho' she was not accustomed to speak much of the inward conflicts through which she passed, to those it is known and that she spoke upon an occasion of having heard this voice most impressively addressed to her mental ear while indulging in the amusements upon the floor of the ball-room.

Such were the gracious dealings of her Saviour, that she was at length enabled through His help to make a surrender of her heart, her all, to him. "Here am I, Lord, do with me what seemeth to thee good" — and keeping her eye single to the pointings of His grace, she was soon drawn to attend the meetings of our religious society, to change her gay apparel, to forsake the amusements in which she had been accustomed to indulge with so much delight, and thus to take up her cross and follow, as ability was afforded, her Saviour, in the way he was graciously pleased to lead her.

In effecting this great change in her habits and pursuits she did not receive any encouragement from her mother, from her father however, she experienced no opposition.

He respected her motives and believed in her sincerity, & put no stumbling-block in her way.

At the meetings of Friends and among them she met many true fathers and nursing mothers who were concerned and enabled to lend her a helping hand and to hold out the word of encouragement to her to persevere in the path in which it seemed evident the Lord was leading her.

Among these, as appears by her correspondence, was our late venerable friend James Mott of the State of New York; and other true friends might be named. During all this time she was still surrounded, in the family circle, by the same scenes of gaiety and amusements as before, but in which she could not participate, but which she felt called upon to forsake, and she was enabled faithfully to do so, though careful conscientiously to fulfil all her duties as a devoted daughter and sister. One who was an inmate of the family at that time, now living, and who remembers her well, relates that at her own home when amusements were introduced which conflicted with her quick sense of propriety, she would excuse herself and retire from the room to the privacy of her own apartment.

As she continued faithful, the way was made plain before her, and [illegible] she was received a member of our religious Society by the Monthly Meeting in the second month 1794.

A younger sister, witnessing the peace of mind which our dear friend enjoyed [illegible] her will to that of her heavenly Father, and feeling the [illegible] of such sources of enjoyment as [illegible] which the world gives, followed her sister in the path of self denial and shortly after became a member of our religious society. This sister [illegible] in a [illegible] Monthly Meeting [illegible] this valuable wife.

It is not remembered when Mary [illegible] first spoke as a minister in a religious meeting, but after a time a gift in the ministry was intrusted to her charge which was approved by her meeting and she was recorded as a minister in the year 1802, as appears by the minutes of Salem Monthly and Quarterly Meetings.

In her communications she [illegible] short and pertinent, [illegible] and [illegible] at intervals, until near the close of her life.

Her favorite theme was the fulness and freeness of the provision for the salvation of our fallen race. She traveled but little abroad as a minister, altho' she several times accompanied ministering friends as companion in religious service, always proving herself a valuable aid and helper.

She was united in marriage with our late friend Abijah Chase, a valuable elder of this meeting, ninth month 10th 1795 with whom she lived in great harmony for nearly sixty years. Her husband was a man of a sweet and humble spirit, meek and lowly in his walk among men, and in their course through life they proved true helpmeets to each other maintaining a Christian walk. In the year 1851 her husband was removed by death, beloved and lamented by all who knew him.

Their house was open for the entertainment of friends and it was their delight thus to dispense their hospitality, and many a weary traveler has been succoured and cheered there, - Friends traveling in the ministry often making it their home.

For several years, in younger life, the health of our dear friend was feeble, and for a considerable time she was kept from meetings from want of physical ability to attend; but afterwards she recovered and retained mostly a comfortable state of health till old age.

Her Christian character was exemplified by her sympathy with the sick and suffering. She was ever ready to give her time and care to those whose needs required them, and was not only a willing and sympathizing but an efficient nurse and helper by the bed of the sick and suffering.

One of the fruits of her early dedication was matured as she advanced in life in the influence she was enabled to exert upon the young; by whom she was much beloved and who were attracted towards her by the kindness of her manner and the tenderness of her spirit.

She survived her husband nearly ten years, and in her old age was found to be quietly peaceful and happy, attaining to nearly eighty nine years, and near her close was enabled to testify that she had been mercifully dealt by; - that he who had been her morning guide was now her evening song, adding with the Psalmist, "Bless the Lord, O my soul and all that is within me bless his holy name".

She departed this life 4th Mo. 26th 1861.

Signed on behalf and by direction of Salem Monthly Meeting aforesaid, held at Lynn 5th Mo. 14th 1868

Charles F. Coffin } clerks
Eliza B. Boyce }

A testimony concerning our late beloved friend Mary Chase has been received from Salem Monthly Meeting, which has been approved by this and the Women's Meeting.

The clerk is directed to sign it on behalf of this meeting and forward it to the meeting for Sufferings.

Extracted from the minutes of Salem Quarterly Meeting, held at Amesbury 5th Mo. 28th 1868.

Joseph P. Newhall, Clerk
Eliza B. Boyce, clerk

A testimony of Salem Monthly Meeting of the Society of Friends respecting Avis Keene, deceased

Having been favored, for many years past, with the pious example and religious engagements of our beloved friend Avis Keene, an acknowledged minister of the gospel amongst us, now lately deceased, we feel our minds engaged to preserve in this manner some record of her character and of the Lord's gracious dealings with her, to the honor and praise of that grace by which she was what she was.

She was the daughter of Silas and Elizabeth (Bumpus) Swift, and was born in Falmouth in the county of Barnstable and state of Mass. on the 24th of 3d mo. 1781.

She appears to have been a child of unusual promise and very early to have been favored with the tendering visitations of divine love, bringing her young mind into serious thoughtfulness. It is said of her, that sometimes in childhood being missed from the family circle, she would be found retired, engaged in reading the Holy Scriptures

Her parents were members of our religious Society, her mother having become so by convincement after many and severe trials. To her the daughter was largely indebted for her care and concern that she should be brought up in accordance with our religious principles. Thus situated, Avis Keene was early accustomed punctually to attend our

religious meetings, and being of an active temperament & possessing much native intelligence, she was led in her youth into much serious inquiry. About her 19th year she had a severe attack of what was called ship fever which visited at the same time, several of the family including her mother.

Doubtless this visitation wrought powerfully upon her sensitive mind, as it appears that for a considerable time after her recovery from it she experienced great conflict of mind and a season of much discouragement; so much so that she was tempted to cease going to meeting, saying it could be of no avail and would do her no good.

But it appears that in this low and discouraged state, the hand of the Lord was upon her for good, and after much striving as it were in her own strength, she heard a voice sounding distinctly to her mental ear, "Trust thou and trust more".

Being thus directed to look to the true source of help, she was enabled to trust – to cease from her own strivings, & to learn that true faith was, not of herself; "it is the gift of God" Eph. II. 8. Thus was she enabled through faith to overcome her discouragements and to strengthen her deliverance to her friends by opening her mouth in our religious meetings on two several occasions, thus experiencing the verification of the Savior's promise, "Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest." Thus did the Lord deal bountifully with her.

She continued to reside with her parents who had removed (when she was about four years old) to Sandwich in the same county, until her 23d year. In her parents' house ministering friends were frequently entertained and it is remembered that she remarked that she believed the "privileges she had enjoyed in their company had been blessed to her."

On the fourteenth of twelfth month 1803 she was united in marriage with Josiah Keene and after a short time removed with him to a place within the limits of Pembroke Monthly Meeting, where they resided many years. During her residence in that monthly meeting her friends acknowledged that she had received a gift in the ministry and she was recorded as a minister by Pembroke Monthly Meeting and Sandwich Quarterly Meeting in the year 1814.

After a time her health became seriously affected, and symptoms of pulmonary disease appeared and she

removed with the family to Leicester in Worcester Co. farther from the sea-shore, where her health improved. From Leicester she, with the family, came to reside at Lynn in our Monthly Meeting in the year 1819. and here resided during the remainder of her life.

She was not called to travel abroad as a minister extensively, altho' she visited, in that capacity, some of the Quarterly Meetings within our own Yearly Meeting and was diligent and punctual in the attendance of those to which she particularly belonged, going as long as health permitted to Yearly, Quarterly and other Meetings as they came in course. Her labors in the ministry were abundant and savory, setting forth, particularly in her later life, the only way of salvation through repentance towards God and faith towards our Lord Jesus Christ. For, having experienced the loving kindness of the Lord by the washing of regeneration and the renewing of the Holy Ghost in her own particular, she could effectually point others to "the Lamb of God that taketh away the sins of the world". There was a freshness & originality in her public communications which rendered them peculiarly instructive and edifying.

She loved to trace the good hand of her God in all his works. She had learned to "consider the lilies of the field, how they grow" and to trace their beauty to their Maker and that in all the works of his hands divine love and beauty were harmoniously blended; and in her public teaching, this trait of her character could often be recognized.

Love and charity towards all were conspicuous traits with her. She was ever ready to sympathize with the afflicted and to comfort, as ability was afforded, those who mourn; and many a young heart has been soothed by her words of cheer when their minds were perplexed by doubts and fears.

To her children she was a faithful and loving mother and to her family circle, a bright example of the power of divine grace to form and regulate the true Christian life. Thus she was enabled, not only to fulfil the station of a nursing mother in Israel but also at the domestic fireside — and her children have abundant cause to rise up and call her blessed and their care and kindness added much to her comfort in her declining years.

Her enlarged and cultivated mind rendered her conversation peculiarly interesting in the social circle, and her company was appreciated by her acquaintances, friends both young and old. During her long life she was given to experience many and sore conflicts, both from within and without in which he who loved her and gave himself for her was with her for her help and support and in all her afflictions and temptations brought her safely through and preserved her green and bright even to old age, verifying his sure promise that having loved his own he loveth them unto the end.

It was very instructive to visit her in her chamber of sickness and feebleness as she approached her close and to witness the placid and heavenly frame of her spirit. The following expressions uttered but a short time before her death, in conversation with a friend who visited her, are both instructive and confirmatory of the soundness of her Christian faith. This interview took place on the 10th of ninth month [illegible] that when in her eighty seventh year she seemed quietly waiting and said, in substance, that she was still kept alive, [illegible] She could not tell. "I feel the need of patience. There is no place of rest for me but in the rock Christ Jesus. He is the way, the truth & the life. This is my hope, my dependence. Faith in him [illegible] for we [illegible] of him [illegible] of that incorruptible seed and Word that liveth and abideth forever. We must experimentally know him who is the resurrection and the life".

At the same interview she spoke of the corruption of the natural heart and of its alienation from God, saying that she "knew by her own experience that it was so, the truth was made clear to her in early life and she had always believed it." And most earnestly did she urge the appointed remedy, even living belief and operative faith in Jesus the anointed Saviour, that we may be of those that believe to the saving of the soul. She spoke of prayer, true & living prayer, as an acceptable service. "Not words merely in the form of prayer [illegible] the life which was not acceptable to God."

Thus anchored fast on the everlasting Rock she could remark, as she did to another friend who visited her when greatly enfeebled in body but sweet and placid in spirit, "I think I can say that I have one badge of discipleship; I know that I have great love for my friends."

In this sweet frame of mind she quietly departed on the 13th of 10th mo. 1867, aged nearly eighty seven years,—

and, as we reverently trust, has entered one of those mansions prepared by the blessed Savior for those who love and serve him, - there forever to bless and praise his name.

Let her survivors, in all sincerity of heart, unite in the prayer, "Let me die the death of the righteous, and let my last end be like theirs.

Her funeral was attended on the 17th of 10th mo. on which occasion a solemn meeting was held in Friends Meeting house in Lynn; - at which, many testimonies to her worth were borne.

"The memory of the just is blessed"

Signed on behalf and by direction of Salem Monthly Meeting aforesaid in the State of Massachusetts, held at Lynn Third month 12th 1868

Charles F. Coffin, clerk
Eliza B. Boyce, clerk

A testimony concerning our late beloved friend, Avis Keene, has been received from Salem Monthly Meeting which has been approved by this and the women's meeting. The clerk is directed to sign it on behalf of this meeting and forward it to the meeting for Sufferings

Extracted from the minutes of Salem Quarterly Meeting held at Amesbury 5th Mo. 28th 1868.

Joseph P. Newhall, clerk
Eliza B. Boyce, clerk

A testimony of South Kingstown Monthly Meeting respecting Timothy C. Collins, deceased.

Timothy Clark Collins son of Abel and Mary A. Collins was born in North Stonington, Connecticut, 4th of First Mo. 1799. He was nurtured in the fear and admonition of the Lord by pious parents and was thus prepared in early life to submit to the restraining influence of divine grace, manifested in the heart, and to yield to the way of the cross of Christ; and, under its sanctifying influence was made meet for the Master's

use and prepared to occupy various offices in the church militant to the honor of truth. Endowed with rich intellectual gifts, it was his delight to cultivate them and he was much absorbed in the pursuit of knowledge, but the continued illness of his father, while young and the consequent care of his business devolving upon him as the eldest son, interrupted his plans of a profession.

In 1824 he married Mary Ann Gardner daughter of Peleg Gardner of South Kingstown R.I. to which place he soon after removed and continued to reside during the remainder of his life. Although living remote from meeting, he was a constant attender thereof in which his solid deportment indicated great reverence of spirit and fervency of desire to gain access to the Fountain of all good! He embraced all suitable opportunities to advocate the spirituality of the Gospel of our Lord & Saviour Jesus Christ and left much proof of his anxious concern that others should not be entangled with vain forms & ceremonies the outward evidences of Christianity - but wholly depend upon the inward and spiritual work of the grace of God which bringeth salvation.

In the 33^{d} year of his age, by the constraining love of God, his mouth was opened to bear testimony to the all-sufficiency of a Saviour's love. In 1839 he was appointed to the station of elder and soon after with the brethren he passed through deep proving which befell our beloved Society. His travail for the prosperity of Zion appears in the following memorandum made in the early part of the year 1842.

"Year after year passes away and it is amongst the mercies of our heavenly Father that I am permitted to be a sojourner here and still striving for the crown immortal. Various have been the vicissitudes through which I have passed. I have plunged from deep to deep - sometimes been favored to stand upon that Rock against which the billows dash in vain. May I be favored to get down to the very root of religion! May every thing in me that is not acceptable in the Divine sight be purged away and my heart be sanctified and made clean by the powerful operation of the word which is nigh even in the heart. Many have been the trials of the church for years past. the walls of Jerusalem are broken down & the gates thereof burned with fire. May all who feel an interest in her welfare be willing to labor with one hand while they hold the weapons with the other, that the walls

may be built and the gates set up, - that Zion may again appear beautiful as in days of old."

In 1850, he was recorded a minister, and, in the exercise of the gift committed to his charge, he was careful to move at the requiring and under the direction of divine wisdom, devoting much time and strength to the service of his dear Lord and Master, for the continuance of which years he counted nothing too near or dear to part with that he might be instrumental in gathering souls to Christ.

In 1863 a deep bereavement befell him in the sudden removal, by death, of his dear wife. Through this trying dispensation he gained his entire dependence upon the sustaining arm and was enabled to say "the Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord"

He several times visited in Gospel love the meetings and many of the families of Friends composing this Yearly Meeting, and in 1864 attended New York Yearly Meeting. On these occasions he was deeply humbled in a sense of poverty, weakness and insufficiency. Yet he was strengthened in gospel authority to the awakening and conviction of many. Through the course of his gospel labors both in public and private he expressed an earnest affection for the living generation with whom he was led into deep sympathy in their present & eternal welfare. For this class he felt a tender solicitude in view of the temptations to which they are exposed and whatever things which he believed to have been designed to encourage them to persevere in the right way & the Lord to check the early appearance of a departure from Christian simplicity, they were enjoined with as much love that they found a ready entrance into the heart.

He was a great lover of retirement and meditation. The frequent reading of the Holy Scriptures was also a source of instruction and comfort to him; and this practice he often tendered recommended to others as one of the means by which the mind is strengthened & encouraged to advance in the Christian course. He was often useful in settling little differences among his neighbors and friends, and his decision in such cases was mostly well received.

In 4th month 1867, he visited the families of a neighboring Monthly Meeting, and upon returning expressed a belief that

his labors were about to terminate. On the first of Fifth month he was attacked with a slight paralytic and appeared to recover in a few hours, and the four remaining days of his life were spent in great peace: and seldom has a disciple of our Lord evinced such a flow of life to all as he manifested. Writing to a son on the 4th of 5mo. he says, "I am more comfortable, the fear of death was taken away and I remembered what the apostle said 'to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.' I am favored with great peace & comfort. I feel that I have not been following cunningly devised fables, but the everlasting truth. There is efficacy in it; there is power; that which sustains me under trial. And what am I to be thus favored? A mere earth-worm! I ascribe it all to the goodness and mercy of that great Being whom I desire to serve. I believe he will be with me to the end, whether it be now or at another time."

That night he was heard to repeat these lines

"When all thy mercies O, my God
My rising soul surveys
Transported with the view, I'm lost
In wonder, love and praise."

He immediately added "O, my God, I thank thee for all the comforts, mercies and blessings thou hast given me." He expressed a willingness to live if he could be useful to any, but to depart and be with Christ was far better

He became speechless about two hours before his departure, and, by pleasing signs, he indicated sweet peace, and the covering over those about him comforted his friends that the everlasting arms were underneath to support him.

Thus he departed this life 5th of 5th mo. 1867. aged 68. years, 4 months. As a pillar in the Lord's house, he was found fast, actuated by a Christian zeal. In deportment, grave; his gospel labors free from affectation, in doctrine, clear, filled with charity, often expressing his belief that sects and distinctions are lost in the divine sight.

As a minister he spoke of what he knew, and what his hands had handled of the good word of life

"Blessed are the dead that die in the Lord, from henceforth; yea, saith the Spirit that they may rest from their labors & their works do follow them"

Signed on behalf of the meeting aforesaid, held 4th mo 27th 1865

Edward H. Collins, Assistant clerk
Anna A. Gould, Clerk

A testimony from South Kingstown Monthly Meeting, concerning our late friend Timothy C. Collins was read and approved by this meeting.

From the minutes of Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting, held at East Greenwich 7th of 5th Mo. 1868,

Gideon C. Smith } Clerks
Mary A. Smith }

Another book of Testimonies has been opened while this was mislaid — commencing with that concerning [illegible] —